

Hafa Adai!

Sand Where the Sun Don't Shine, 2 other teams top Sand Sculpting Competition. **PAGE 2**
GMS celebrates student achievements with commencement exercises, recognition event. **PAGE 3**

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TO CHILD PORNOGRAPHY CHARGES Frahm pleads not guilty

By KIMBERLY B. ESMORES
kimberly_esmores@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Former local high school band teacher David Matthew Frahm, who is facing child pornography charges in federal court, has pleaded not guilty to all charges filed against him.

See **FRAHM** on Page 4



RACQUEL FLOYD

United Filipino Organization-CNMI members pose after successfully organizing the Pistang Pinoy 2024 last Sunday at the Marianas Business Plaza in Susupe.

Juangco wins 'Kwarta o Kahon' at Pistang Pinoy

By RACQUEL H. FLOYD
raxfloyd@gmail.com
CORRESPONDENT

Hafa Adai Rent-A-Car staff Rochelle Juangco took home \$150 cash during the "Kwarta o Kahon" game, which was the highlight of the United Filipino Organiza-

tion-CNMI's Pistang Pinoy 2024 last Sunday at Marianas Business Plaza, Susupe.

The 25-year-old, already picked the letter Y box, where the \$500 is but changed it to the letter I box. "I felt so nervous, especially on stage.

See **JUANGCO** on Page 4



RACQUEL FLOYD

Hafa Adai Rent-A-Car staff Rochelle Juangco, left, and emcee RV Tolentino during the "Kwarta o Kahon" game of the United Filipino Organization-CNMI's Pistang Pinoy 2024 last Sunday at the Marianas Business Plaza in Susupe.

US DELEGATE CANDIDATES, CHAMBER WEIGH IN 'Asiana's closure shouldn't come as a surprise'

By KIMBERLY B. ESMORES
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REPORTER

The impending closure of Asiana Airlines' Saipan office and the forthcom-

ing end of its Incheon-Saipan route was foreseeable and shouldn't come as a surprise, according to NMI delegate candidates.

Last week, Asiana Airlines' Saipan

office announced that come June 30, it will be closing its doors and ending its over 30 years of air service to Saipan.

NMI delegate candidates and the

See **CLOSURE** on Page 4

INSIDE



LOCAL

Delegate Uifa'atali Amata Radewagen applauds the recent letter sent by the Department of Justice to members of Congress regarding the Insular Cases.

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BUSINESS

Atkins Kroll (Saipan), Inc. is thrilled to announce the arrival of the highly anticipated 2025 Lexus NX to the CNMI.

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LIFE & STYLE

"Bad Boys: Ride or Die," the fourth installment in the Will Smith-Martin Lawrence action comedy series, opened with an estimated \$56 million in theaters over the weekend.

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CNMI Operation Wellness begins

By KIMBERLY B. ESMORES
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REPORTER

The United States military, in collaboration with the Commonwealth

Bureau of Military Affairs, has launched the annual Innovative Readiness Training Operation Wellness

In an announcement made

See **CNMI** on Page 4

Local

Sand Where the Sun Don't Shine, 2 other teams top Sand Sculpting Competition

By RACQUEL H. FLOYD
raxfloyd@gmail.com
CORRESPONDENT

Sand Where the Sun Don't Shine won the Alu'u Division of the Division of Coastal Resources Management's Sand Sculpting Competition last Saturday at the beachfront of Sandy Homes in Chalan Kanoa.

DCRM held the tilt in

celebration of Ocean Month and had the theme "Ocean Guardian."

In winning the 15-years-and-older division, Sand Where the Sun Don't Shine beat three other teams—Diva Divers, Tasi Squad, and Umang Gang.

"We chose the sharks because they help out the ecosystems, so no other species overpowers the other species.

We chose the dolphins to balance it out because sharks are usually seen as more evil species, while dolphins are seen as more nice species, so we chose both," said team member Matthew Peters.

Aside from Peters, Sand Where the Sun Don't Shine is also made up of Mai Peters, Haani Passi, YuLing Chai, and Joe Weaver.

Little Sirenas and Ocean Friends were the only teams that competed in the Haggan Division (5-9) and the Gamsun (10-12) divisions, respectively, and both automatically won.

Sand Where the Sun Don't Shine, Little Sirenas, and Ocean Friends went home \$50 richer after topping their divisions.

Little Sirenas included Davana Quitugua, Annie Flores, Jayana Pangilinan, Hanah Camacho, and Nalani Takeda; while Ocean Friends had Scarlett Shae Salas, Kendra Camacho, Alyana Pangilinan, Chloe Taimanao, and Aliyah Basa.

The DCRM Communications coordinator Colleen



RACQUEL FLOYD
Division of Coastal Resources Management's Sand Sculpting Competition judges, from left, Jolly Ann Taisacan of Mariana Islands Nature Alliance, Zabrina Cruz of Division of Environmental Quality, and Mary Urena of DCRM pose with the Alu'u Division champion Sand Where the Sun Don't Shine.

Flores said they hosted the Sand Sculpting Competition to bring awareness to conserving ocean resources.

"When we were brainstorming for event ideas, we were thinking of ways where we can have a fun interactive competition for our community and one of the ideas that we had was to have this sand sculpting competition, to bring awareness to our shorelines on our sand beaches because they

are like our forefront of our island, it's very important that we protect our shorelines."

Each team had a maximum of five members and were given two hours to create and were only permitted to use sand, water, and hand tools for construction or carving. The use of glue, wax, and paint was prohibited. The sand sculptures were rated based on theme, detail, neatness, and creativity by judges Mary

Urena of DCRM, Zabrina Cruz of the Division of Environmental Quality, and Jolly Ann Taisacan of Mariana Islands Nature Alliance.

Aside from the Sand Sculpting competition, DCRM will also be having a summer movie night on June 28 at the Carolinian Utt in Garapan and is inviting the community to come. The screening of "A Turtle's Tale" starts at 7pm and "Jaws" at 9pm.



Commonwealth Zoning Board
ZONING OFFICE

Caller Box 10007, Saipan, MP 96950
Tel. 670-234-9661/2/3, FAX 234-9666
zoningboard@cnmzoning.com



COMMONWEALTH ZONING BOARD
SAIPAN ZONING OFFICE

PUBLIC NOTICE

**Text Amendment to the
Saipan Zoning Law of 2013**

Pursuant to **Section 7242 of the Zoning Code**, this is to inform the public that the following amendment to the Saipan Zoning Law of 2013 had been approved and determined effective by all members of the Commonwealth Zoning Board through corresponding Board Resolution, during its **June 06, 2024** regular meeting:

Zoning Board Resolution 2024-06-01:

- a. To include "Government Service" in Table 1 of Article 4, Section 404 as Conditional Use within the Public Resource zoning district

/s/
Henry S. Hofsneider, Board Chairman



JOETEN-KIYU PUBLIC LIBRARY
CNMI STATE LIBRARY

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Website: <http://www.cnmlib.org> Email: cnnistatelibrary@gmail.com

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

RFP24-JKPL-42400099:
ARCHITECTURAL AND ENGINEERING SERVICES FOR JKPL SOLAR PV PARKING STRUCTURE PROJECT

SUBMISSION DATE: 10:00 AM ChST JULY 10, 2024

The Joeten-Kiyu Public Library (JKPL), under the auspices of the Office of the Governor, is soliciting sealed proposals for the design of a Parking Structure with Solar Photovoltaics (PV) Lighting System, also known as a solar car parking structure, on the west side of the main facility. Funding for this project was made available through the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) Rural Development Office through US Congressional Earmarking Funds.

The project package will be available in digital format only beginning **June 11, 2024** online at Vendor Self Service at selfservice.dof.gov.mp/vss/Vendors/VBids.

A Pre-Proposal Conference will be held virtually at the JKPL Conference Room, Susupe, Saipan at **10:00 AM on ChST June 25, 2024**. Questions regarding this RFP may be submitted via email to Mrs. Erlinda C. Naputi, Library Director, at ecnaputi@gmail.com no later than **4:00 PM ChST July 2, 2024**. All questions & answers will be shared with all prospective proposers.

Proposers located outside of the CNMI must fill out and submit the Notice of Intent Form to the Acting Director of Procurement Services via email (bidintent@dof.gov.mp) no later than **10:00 AM ChST, July 10, 2024**.

THE PROVISIONS OF THE CNMI PROCUREMENT REGULATIONS, NMIC SECTION 70-30.3-725 AND 70-30.3-730 PROHIBITING GRATUITIES, KICKBACKS, AND CONTINGENT FEES SHALL APPLY.

THE CNMI GOVERNMENT RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REJECT ANY AND ALL BIDS, OR PORTIONS THEREOF, AND WAIVE IMMATERIAL DEFECTS IF TO DO SO WOULD BE IN THE BEST INTEREST OF THE CNMI GOVERNMENT.

**/S/ Erlinda C. Naputi, Library Director
Joeten-Kiyu Public Library** **/S/ Brien S. Nicholas Jr., Acting Director
Division of Procurement Services**

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Hafa Adai!

Saipan Tribune

THE CNMI'S FIRST DAILY NEWSPAPER

Woman faces legal scrutiny for probation violations

By CHRYSAL MARINO
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CORRESPONDENT

The U.S. District Court for the NMI is poised to address the case of Vickilyn Manglona Teregeyo following a request from U.S. Probation officer Gregory Arriola to schedule a hearing regarding her alleged use of a controlled substance.

Teregeyo's legal odyssey began with a conviction in

Guam for the offense of drug user in possession of a firearm and ammunition. Despite this, she was permitted to serve her probation in the CNMI under the federal court system.

Under the gavel of Guam District Court Chief Judge Frances M. Tydingo-Gatewood in May 2019, Teregeyo received a sentence of time served, totaling 12 months and 18 days, along

with a three-year term of supervised release. However, her journey took a detour when her supervised release was revoked in March 2022 by U.S. District Court for the NMI Chief Judge Ramona V. Manglona, prompted by Teregeyo's admission of methamphetamine use.

Subsequently, Teregeyo was sentenced to a three-month prison term, followed by three

months of home confinement/detention with electronic monitoring, as well as 27 months of supervised release. This fourth term of supervised release began on Nov. 24, 2023, with an expiration date set for May 23, 2025.

Despite these judicial interventions, Teregeyo found herself entangled in a web of probation violations, including testing positive for metham-

phetamine. Arriola's petition for summons for an offender under supervision on Jan. 16, 2024, marked the beginning of renewed legal proceedings.

Appearances before Manglona on Jan. 24 and subsequent dates revealed Teregeyo's admission of drug test results and failure to comply with probation officer instructions. A warrant of arrest was granted on Feb. 9, 2024, after Teregeyo failed to respond to multiple attempts at contact.

Teregeyo's self-surrender on Feb. 12, 2024, led to a revocation hearing before Manglona, where additional violations were reported, including Teregeyo's admission of methamphetamine use on Feb. 10, 2024.

Despite these infractions, Teregeyo was granted release to pursue residential substance abuse treatment at the HOPE Recovery Center, though subsequent actions, including rescinded authorizations and eviction from the facility, further complicated her legal standing.

Arriola, citing Teregeyo's noncompliance, petitioned for the revocation of her supervised release, yet Manglona opted to allow Teregeyo to continue treatment at the HOPE Recovery Center.

As the legal saga unfolds, Teregeyo's final disposition hearing is scheduled for July 10, 2024, amid a backdrop of escalating probation violations and judicial scrutiny.

FRAHM

From page 1

After he arrived on Saipan yesterday following a successful extradition from Malaysia, Frahm was brought before U.S. District Court for the NMI Chief Judge Ramona V. Manglona for an initial appearance and arraignment in a case involving child pornography.

Specifically, in this case, Frahm faces charges of attempted exploitation of a child, possession of child pornography, and engaging in illicit sexual conduct in foreign places.

During yesterday's hearing, Frahm, through his court appointed counsel Richard Miller, pleaded not guilty to all charges filed against him.

After pleading not guilty, Manglona set the matter for a jury trial on Aug. 13 at 10am.

However, both Miller and assistant U.S. attorney Eric

O'Malley informed the court that there could be delays in this case due to acquiring virtual evidence, analysis of the evidence, and pre-trial motions.

In an interview with defense attorney Miller after the hearing, he explained that by law, the court is required to set a trial date within 70 days of an arraignment and because Frahm was arraigned yesterday, the court was following procedure.

However, Miller said based on his experiences in similar cases, a trial date in August is unlikely and a later date is more realistic as it gives both parties time to prepare.

"The judge by statute needs to set a jury trial within 70 days of a defendant's initial appearance and arraignment. I was just alerting her that in all likelihood, we would be moving her to continue the trial to a later date because with the nature of the charges, elec-

tronically stored information is involved, and that requires analysis sometimes technical analysis and that takes time. Second, the charges stem from two completely different periods; the first two are alleged conduct in 2019, and the third charge alleges conduct in 2024, very different set of facts and each one will present its own challenges both to the defense and prosecution and may have its own set of motions associated with it," he said.

The court also set a hearing for June 17, 2024 to address the government's motion for detention pending trial.

"I just got the case today and it takes time to investigate the facts that may persuade the court to release my client on bail prior to trial. This is normal. The government filed a motion for detention pending trial, so I am expecting the government to oppose any

bail," he said.

Meanwhile, Miller said he intends to file a motion to dismiss the engaging in illicit sexual conduct in foreign places charge against Frahm based on lack of venue.

"Even if the court has jurisdiction over the defendant for count three, there's still the question 'why Saipan' when the conduct took place in Malaysia. On the face of the indictment, it's not clear. Sometimes venue is obvious on the face of the indictment, and that's enough. But here, it's just not obvious in count three so I expect we will file a motion on that," he said.

According to *Saipan Tribune* archives, Frahm pleaded guilty before a court in Malaysia last month to possessing child pornography.

A longer version of this story is available at www.saipantribune.com

CLOSURE

From page 1

Saipan Chamber of Commerce has expressed their thoughts on the announcement and, although they hope for the best, they believe the news should not come as a surprise.

Rep. Ed Propst (D-Saipan), in a statement to *Saipan Tribune*, said Asiana Airlines has been operating on a charter basis and telling the CNMI for months now of their plan to close in June.

"News of the actual closure shouldn't exactly come as a surprise. I understand the pending merger with Korean Airlines is a factor and is ex-

pected to be completed later this year. Asiana has also told us that the previous Commonwealth Ports Authority board leadership's decision last year to drastically raise fees by 90% was making it much harder for them to continue operations in the CNMI. The new CPA board has tried to help by adjusting the fees, but perhaps the damage was already done," he said.

Despite this, Propst says it is still sad news to have a long-time CNMI partner close its doors. However, Propst remains optimistic and says he hopes the Marianas Visitors Authority's efforts to engage with Korean Airlines to provide Seoul-

Saipan flights, is fruitful.

"We are all sad to see Asiana go, and we thank them for their partnership and many years of service to the CNMI. We hope that after the dust settles from the merger, new flights from Korea will be added, especially

since we have been seeing such healthy demand from that market. I'm glad to hear that MVA has been proactively engaging with Korean Airlines to consider opening a Seoul-Saipan route, and that Jeju and T'Way are looking to add flights to meet demand. This is hopeful and welcome news. I also urge the new CPA board to reverse the damage done by

Propst is running for NMI delegate under the NMI Democratic Party.

Former CPA chair King-Hinds, in a statement to the media, said what is happening today is foreseeable. Not because of CPA's need to increase its rates to remain self-sustainable, but because of the administration's choice leading up to both Asiana and Hyatt's closures.

A longer version of this story is available at www.saipantribune.com

CNMI

From page 1

yesterday by CBMA, the 2024 CNMI Operation Wellness started yesterday with military personnel offering services free of charge.

CNMI Operation Wellness will be providing provide access to services such as healthcare exam services, optometry services, dentistry services, veterinary care, and behavioral and general health public

education free of charge to the community.

The services will be provided at no cost to the community from June 10 through 28, 2024.

"The services are provided by CBMA under the Office of the Governor in collaboration with the Department of Defense, the 807th Medical Command (Deployment Support), and various CNMI community partners. For more information, contact the CBMA Office at (670) 789-3558/

(670) 789-3559/(670) 483-1812/(670) 483-1813," said CBMA.

IRT Operation Wellness, which essentially provides medical services to members of the local community, is funded by the U.S. Department of Defense.

In a previous interview with IRT's program manager, U.S. Army Reserve Command Maj. Daniel LaVorgna, he said that after the turnout of last year's two-week exercise, they have decided to

expand this year's operation to a month.

Last year, the IRT team provided services to over 3,000 patients.

To accommodate such a large exercise, the military will be deploying 150 service-members from the U.S. Army, the U.S. Army Reserve, the U.S. Air Force, the U.S. Air National Guard.

LaVorgna said the IRT mission is a training opportunity for participating specialized servicemembers.

Philippine Consulate General Agana Guam, headed by consul Ricardo Aragon, also conducted passport releasing during the event.

To conclude the event, two winners of grand prize raffle were drawn with Ruvy Pagdilao, of R3A Construction & General Services; and Ofelia Gonzales winning the Saipan-Guam roundtrip and

The UFO is composed of 10 organizations, namely Bayani Association, Bicol Association, Sto. Nino Group, Marianas Association of Filipino Engineers & Architects, Marianas Institute of Filipino CPAs and Accountants, Tau Gamma Phi/ Triskelion, Northern Marianas Bartenders Association, Saipan Building & Fixing Computer Users Group, MDX Amateur Radio Group, and Akap Pinoy.

Get involved: Nominate now for 2024 Bridge of Light Award

The Northern Marianas Coalition Against Domestic & Sexual Violence encourages the community to nominate deserving individuals for the 2024 Bridge of Light Award. This award commends individuals who demonstrate consistent dedication to aiding victims, survivors, and the entire community in addressing domestic and sexual violence in the CNMI. The Bridge of

Light Award recognizes individuals within eligible agencies, organizations, or offices in the CNMI who have significantly contributed to these efforts. Ideal candidates include service providers, first responders, representatives, or volunteers with at least one year of service. Nominees should exemplify qualities such as leadership, victim advocacy, community education, prevention initiatives, and resource development. "By nominating someone who embodies these qualities, you shine a light on the passion and unwavering commitment of those striving to make our community safer and more supportive for victims and survivors," said Kiki I. Benjamin, associate director of NMCADSV.

CHCC 'Vax2School' summer outreach schedule set

The Commonwealth Healthcare Corp. Public Health Services, in collaboration with the CNMI Public School System, CNMI Department of Youth Services, and Diocese of Chalan Kanoa, will be at various school campuses and community centers throughout Saipan to provide immunization services such as vaccinations and issuance of school health certificate for students who need to be brought up to date with recommended immunizations for School Year 2024-2025. The CHCC conducts routine assessments on the vaccination status of all students enrolled in school or daycare in the CNMI, pursuant to Public Law 06-10 to ensure students have their required immunizations for school entry and attendance.

Services at outreach sites will be available from 8:30am to 3:30pm, dates and location are as follows:

- June 15, 2024 – Gregorio T. Camacho Elementary School (GTC)
- June 22, 2024 – Francisco M. Sablan Middle School (FMS)
- June 29, 2024 – San Vicente Elementary School (SVES)
- July 6, 2024 – Tanapag Youth Center
- July 13, 2024 – Koblerville Elementary School (KES)
- July 20, 2024 – Mt. Carmel Joeten-Daidai Social Hall
- July 27, 2024 – Garapan Elementary School (GES)
- Aug. 3, 2024 – Kagman Community Center

Directional signs will be posted at each location. Please bring a photo ID and applicable insurance information. School health certificates are \$5, cash only.

The CHCC Immunization Clinic on Saipan will remain open on Saturdays from 8am to 4pm. Vaccinations will not be available at the clinic and outreach sites from 11:30am to 12:30pm, please plan accordingly.

Additionally, vaccines and issuance of school health certificates will be available at CHCC Mobile Clinic out-

reaches for well-child visits. Please see schedule at @cnmichcc on Facebook; visit <https://www.chcc.health>; or call (670) 287-9926/27/29.

Who is the immunization outreach for?

■ This outreach is open for all students who need an update with their routine immunizations for school requirements, as well as COVID-19 vaccines and seasonal Influenza (flu) vaccines (until June 30, 2024). These vaccines are available for children ages 0-18 years who have Medicaid, or no insurance.

■ Students who have private insurance may be vaccinated based on vaccine availability. We ask that students have a copy of their insurance information for our staff. If you would like your student to be vaccinated sooner, please contact your healthcare clinic or a pharmacy for their vaccines.

■ Vaccines are also available through our provider/partner sites in the CNMI: CHCC Children's Clinic,

Tinian Health Center, Rota Health Center, Medical Associates of the Pacific, Marianas Medical Center, Kagman Isla Community Health, Southern Isla Community Health, Tinian Isla Community Health. Please contact these locations for their vaccine availability and eligibility requirements.

How can I find out if my child is up to date with immunizations?

To find out if your child is up to date with their vaccines, please call the CNMI Immunization Clinic at (670) 236-8745.

Is there transportation assistance available to and from outreach?

Transportation assistance is available through the CHCC Family-to-Family Health Information Center. Please contact Chrislaine Manibusan at (670) 664-8700 or (670) 287-7464 for more information. Limited vouchers available and reservation must be made two days before your appointment. (PR)

Nominees for recognition can include victims, survivors, their families, friends, and anyone affiliated with eligible agencies, organizations, or offices in CNMI. To nominate someone deserving, visit <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/BOLA2024> by Sept. 13, 2024, at 11:59pm. Nominations will undergo thorough review, focusing on the information provided. It's advised to offer detailed explanations of why the nominee deserves recognition.

The recipient of the 2024 Bridge of Light Award will be announced during the Domestic Violence Awareness Month proclamation signing ceremony in October. The awardee will also be given an exclusive opportunity to participate in a national training program provided by NMCADSV and will receive self-care

prizes sponsored by Tan Siu Lin Foundation and Bridge Capital, LLC.

To learn more about the 2024 Bridge of Light Award or to inquire about how to nominate someone, contact NMCADSV at (670) 234-3878 or send an email to info@endviolencenmi.org. If you or someone you know is experiencing any form of sexual violence, assistance is available. Please call 911 for immediate emergency support or contact the 24/7 Karidat Victim Hotline at (670) 234-5100. (PR)



Summer hours at the Joeten-Kiyu Public Library

Effective June 11-Aug. 10, 2024, the Joeten-Kiyu Public Library will be implementing new summer hours. The new summer library hours will be as follows: Tuesday-Thursday, 9am-5pm, Friday, 1:30pm-7pm, Saturday, 10am-3pm, and closed Sundays, Mondays, and holidays.

Please enjoy your public library's free resources by visiting JKPL's website at www.cnmilib.org like/follow JKPL's Facebook page @joetenkiyupubliclibrary, Instagram @joetenkiyupubliclibrary, Tik Tok @jkpl670,

Twitter @JoetenKiyu, and YouTube: joeten kiyu public library or visit JKPL's website at www.cnmilib.org to see the progress and programs JKPL has worked so hard to offer for the community. For more information regarding any of JKPL's activities, contact JKPL @670-235-7322/7318.

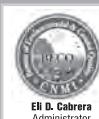
How can you help assist with JKPL programs?

JKPL welcomes and encourages businesses to consider donating Educational Tax Credit. Pursuant to NMI

Public Law 15-120, the Joeten-Kiyu Public Library is able to receive cash contributions under Educational Tax Credit (ETC). Please make checks payable to: CNMI Treasury. For MUNIS payments, to the Friends of the Joeten-Kiyu Public Library MUNIS Vendor ID#100404.

This project was partly made possible by the Institute of Museum and Library Services LS-253665-OLS-23 and LS-256853-OLS-24.

The Joeten-Kiyu Public Library is an equal opportunity provider and employer. (PR)



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Eli D. Cabrera
Administrator



Richard V. Salas
Director, DCRM

PUBLIC NOTICE

From the COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS COASTAL MANAGEMENT PROGRAM of the DIVISION OF COASTAL RESOURCES MANAGEMENT

DATE: June 11, 2024

NOTICE: The Bureau of Environmental and Coastal Quality (BECQ) - Division of Coastal Resources Management (DCRM) is reviewing the following proposed federal agency activities for consistency with the enforceable policies of the CNMI Coastal Management Program:

1) Department of Interior (DOI) US Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) Consistency Determination for the Mariana Trench Marine National Monument (MTNM) draft Monument Management Plan

2) National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) Office of Marine and Aviation Operations (OMAO) Consistency Determination for Vessel Operations Undertaken in the CNMI Coastal Zone, 2023 – 2038

3) National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFs) Consistency Determination for Rulemaking for Western and Central Pacific Fisheries for Highly Migratory Species; Changes to Bigeye Tuna Catch Limits in Longline Fisheries

Federal consistency is a provision of the Coastal Zone Management Act (CZMA) that requires federal actions that affect the CNMI coastal zone to be consistent to the maximum extent practicable with the enforceable policies of the CNMI's federally approved Coastal Management Program (CMP). Comments may be submitted within 15 days of the publication of this notice. This public notice has been published for compliance with 15 CFR § 930.42.

For more information, please visit the public notices on <https://dcrm.gov.mp/our-programs/permitting/federal-consistency/>. For questions, or to submit comments for the above submissions, please contact the Division of Coastal Resources Management at (670) 664-8300, fedcon@dcrm.gov.mp; or PO Box 501304 Saipan, MP 96950.

Federal contractor in need of the following positions for project located in Tinian.

Positions Available:

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- Fuel Truck Driver

Lodging, food, airfare included two-to-three-month initial assignment with long term potential.

*Must be eligible to work.
Pay rate will be \$14/hr to \$20/hr based on experience.
6 day - 10hr/day work week.

All qualified applicants, please call
(670) 789-6632 or (671) 777-3710.

Opinion

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Pacific Islands News Association

EDITORIAL

Biden finally acts on border, but still falls short

After three-and-a-half years and 7.8 million illegal crossings, President Joe Biden is finally tackling the crisis at the southern border and is doing so by borrowing from one of former president Donald Trump's more reviled policies.

Biden issued an executive order that will allow him to shut the border when the number of migrants seeking to cross into this country tops 2,500 a day.

He is claiming the authority under Section 212 (f) of the Immigration and Nationality Act, the same clause that Trump invoked to justify his so-called Muslim ban.

Recall that the 9th Circuit Court of Appeals blocked Trump's total ban on immigrants from seven Middle Eastern countries. It was later upheld by the Supreme Court, but then scrapped by Biden.

This time, the American Civil Liberties Union is already threatening a legal challenge to Biden's executive order.

Our issue with Biden's order is not whether he has the constitutional authority to act to protect the nation from a national security threat, but rather the back-door approach he is taking.

Biden has laid out a complex formula for triggering the border closure. It will shut when illegal crossings average more than 2,500 for seven consecutive days and will remain closed until 14 days after there have been seven days in a row of less than 1,500 illegal encounters.

It's been since July 2020 that crossings have averaged below 1,500, so this should effectively close the border immediately. Enforcement will be beefed up, the president promises. Those who cross unauthorized will face a greater likelihood of being sent back, a significant change from the Biden administration's previous practice of allowing asylum seekers to disappear into the country.

The change in policy is driven entirely by politics. Immigration ranks as a top concern of voters heading into the fall presidential election, and one on which Biden fares poorly. The Real Clear Politics average finds roughly 63% of voters disapprove of the president's handling of immigration.

The executive order Biden signed is similar to a bill defeated in the Senate in February for lack of Republican support.

The chief GOP objection to that bill was that it still provided an opening for people crossing illegally to slip in under the shut-down threshold. That measure set the daily average at 4,000, 1,500 higher than allowed in Biden's executive order. The president did not take the tougher measure he crafted back to Congress. He should have.

It is problematic when a president effectively puts a law in place by executive order that has already been rejected by the legislative branch.

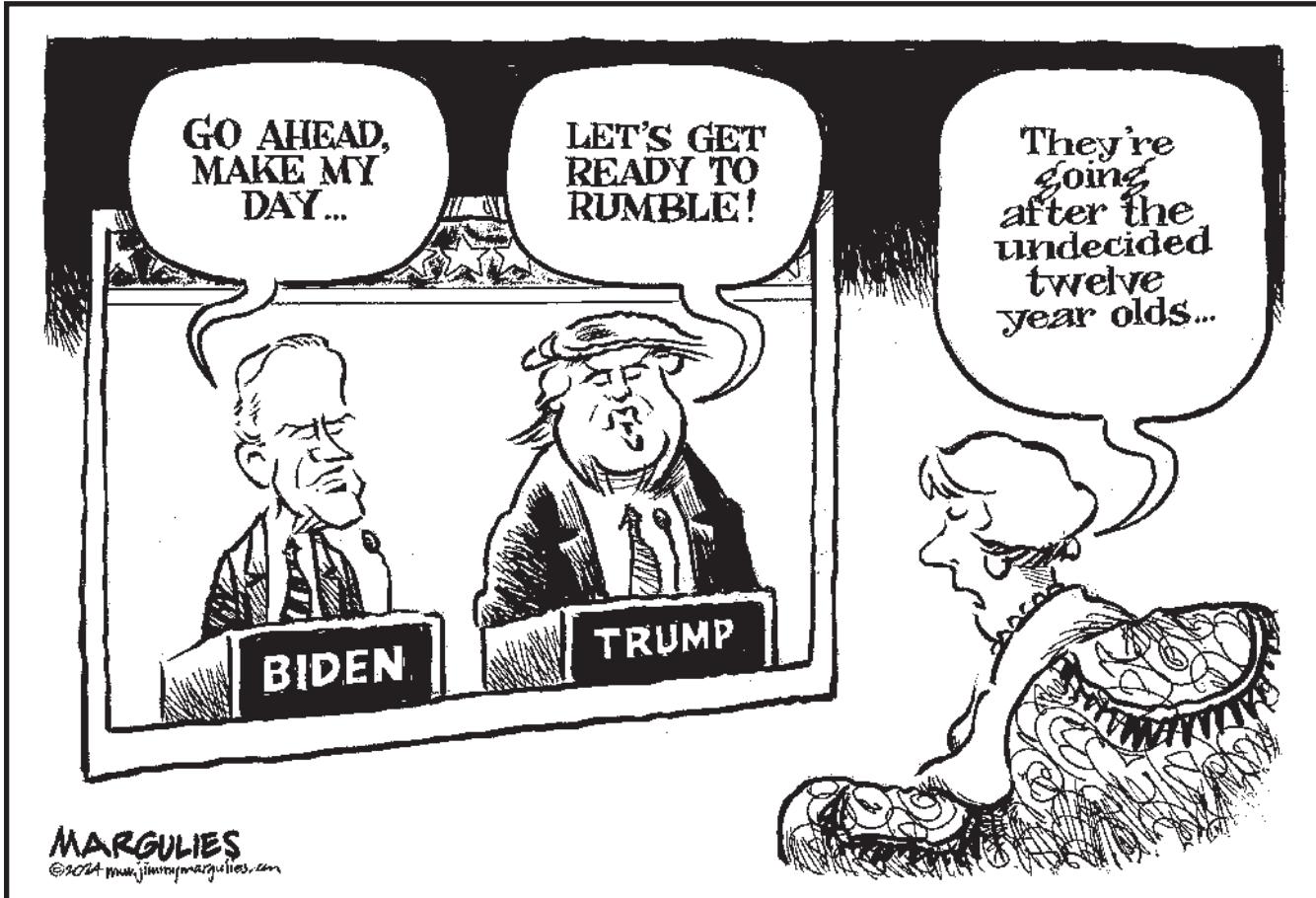
This also falls short of being a long-term solution. Illegal crossings have soared under Biden because his administration has tolerated what amounts to an open border for its entire tenure.

Asylum seekers who come in through ports of entry or use the Customs and Border Protection app to make appointments will still be waved into the country.

What Biden is doing in this executive order is better than what he has been doing to secure the border, which is nothing.

But it falls short of what's needed. To be secure, America must be in full control of its borders. And that requires knowing exactly who is entering the country and why.

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The US can't be protectionist and world leader

President Joe Biden likes to call the United States "the indispensable nation." By that he means that America is the only power simultaneously mighty and benevolent enough to preserve whatever is left of a liberal order—one in which rules and multilateral institutions govern, among other things, a system of relatively free international finance and trade.

But what if the U.S. itself, even under Biden, turns against the system it's supposed to guard, becoming an agent of economic nationalism, international fragmentation and hostile bloc-building?

Doubts to that effect have popped up throughout the Pax Americana, the long period of U.S. leadership that followed World War II. What most frightened America's friends abroad, though, was Donald Trump in the White House. His "America First" worldview was a throwback to a much earlier U.S. stance of isolationism and nationalism.

The infamous symbol of that older tradition was the Smoot-Hawley Tariff Act of 1930. Named after its sponsors, it hiked duties on America's trading partners, thus making U.S. consumers and importers poorer and foreign exporters angrier. Their governments "retaliated" (a stupid term, since they only impoverished their own importers out of spite) with tariffs against the U.S. And so it went, in round after round of "beggar-thy-neighbor" protectionism that made the Great Depression worse and nations more aggressive. Within a decade, the world was at war. The U.S. Senate today calls Smoot-Hawley "among the most catastrophic acts in congressional history."

With that disaster in mind, U.S. leaders after the war went the other way. With its economic, military and soft power unrivaled, Washington built political institutions such as the United Nations as well as economic organs such as the International Monetary Fund, the World Bank and the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade, which in 1995 became the World Trade Organization. Their job was to set rules for finance and trade, at least for the free (as opposed to communist) world and parts of the non-aligned (or "Third World").

With the U.S. guarding the system, trade and capital flows increased and then soared after the dissolution of the Soviet Union. This heyday of globalization lifted millions if not billions of people worldwide out of poverty. But there were also costs: some workers in some countries, including the U.S., lost their livelihoods whenever the economics of comparative advantage made production elsewhere in the world more efficient, or when some countries—notably China, even though it joined the WTO in 2001—didn't play by the rules.

These frustrations caused a protectionist backlash in the U.S. Some pols and pundits were livid at China in particular and wanted to hit back at its foul play while bypassing the WTO, which in theory has mechanisms to settle such disputes. Oth-

By ANDREAS KLUTH

Bloomberg Opinion

Andreas Kluth is a Bloomberg Opinion columnist covering U.S. diplomacy, national security and geopolitics. Previously, he was editor-in-chief of *Handelsblatt Global* and a writer for *The Economist*.



ers, notably Trump, were irate at almost all of America's trading partners, especially if the U.S. ran current-account deficits with them, as in the case of Germany.

Once in the Oval Office, Trump went full Smoot-Hawley. He imposed tariffs on steel and aluminum from lots of countries, on Chinese goods from clothes and shoes to furniture and electronics, and even on stuff made in Europe and other countries that consider themselves friends.

The bigger surprise is what Biden did when he took over. Instead of reverting to a liberal trade policy in keeping with his internationalist reputation, he kept the Trump tariffs. He even added some: This month, the U.S. slapped a new round of restrictions on Chinese electric vehicles, solar panels and more. On trade, Trump and Biden now vie for the presidency in nuanced shades of the same protectionist hue: Trump promises to erect huge trade barriers around much of the economy, Biden merely to wall off specific sectors—the administration calls that approach "small yard and high fence."

Counting only tariffs, quotas and other trade barriers in fact understates the nationalist turn in U.S. economic policy. Biden is especially proud of his industrial policy, embedded into legislative packages with misleading titles such as the CHIPS and Science Act or the Inflation Reduction Act and consisting of huge subsidies to American companies. As with tariffs, European and Asian countries are retaliating with their own industrial policies. "We've got a subsidies war, which is worse than a trade war, because subsidies are harder to roll back," says Adam Posen, president of the Peterson Institute for International Economics.

Biden has also continued in the same vein as Trump in another disturbing way. He's been dissing the WTO by blocking nominees to its appellate courts and thus sabotaging the entire multilateral trade regime. Instead, Biden is betting on bilateral and regional trade deals, hoping to hug democracies and snub autocracies. As Mathew Burrows and Robert Manning at the Stimson Center show, global trade and finance are fragmenting into rival and increasingly hostile blocs, one centered on China and extending into the "Global South," another around the U.S. and

See LEADER on Page 7

EDITORIAL POLICY

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Hey, Trump defenders: Knock it off!

The reaction among Republicans to the news that Donald Trump was convicted in New York of 34 felony counts of falsifying business records was fast and furious.

House Speaker Mike Johnson declared it a “shameful day in American history.” Ohio Sen. J.D. Vance called the jury’s verdict a “disgrace to the judicial system.” Senate Minority Leader Mitch McConnell of Kentucky assured the world that the charges “should have never happened.”

Without having sat through the five-week trial, these and other modern-day representatives of the party of law and order have determined that the charges against Trump were illegitimate and the outcome was, as he put it, “rigged.” Rep. James Comer, also of Kentucky, explained that the verdict is “another example of Democrats being relentless in their pursuit to weaponize the courts, abuse America’s judicial system, and target President Joe Biden’s political opposition.”

That Republicans have stooped so low in their groveling fidelity to Trump’s delusions should surprise no one, given all that has come before. Nonetheless, this attack on this particular court cries out for special opprobrium, given the paucity of evidence on which it rests—such things as how the judge, Juan Manuel Merchan, once gave Biden a \$15 contribution.

Trump’s lawyers were able to cross-examine witnesses and call a witness of their own. By all accounts, they raised ample reason to doubt the veracity of a key prosecution witness, Michael Cohen, and they did their level best to suggest that, because

she has worked as a porn actress, Stormy Daniels had no right to be upset about a creepy guy twice her age asking her for sex.

In the end, the case did not hinge on the testimony of any single witness but on the considerable amount of evidence that backed up these witnesses. Even the testimony of Trump loyalist Hope Hicks bolstered the prosecution’s case. Still, Trump’s defenders are discarding even the possibility that the jury got it right and that he was convicted because he’s guilty. That’s reckless, and it’s dangerous.

It’s time for Trump defenders to knock it off.

You have no right to declare fraud with no evidence. You have no right to declare the process illegitimate simply because you don’t like the result. It is clear that no such shrieks would be emanating from Trump and his minions had the trial ended in his exoneration or even in a hung jury.

When a lone Republican, former Maryland Gov. Larry Hogan (who is a current U.S. Senate candidate) urged Americans to “respect” the verdict and “not pour fuel on the fire with more toxic partisanship,” he was immediately pelted by Republican National Committee co-chair Lara Trump, the former president’s daughter-in-law. Lara Trump said Hogan “doesn’t deserve the respect of anyone in the Republican Party at this point, and quite frankly, anybody in America.” This is low, even for her.

Knock it off.

Trump is entitled to all the appeals he can get his followers to pay for. He can rail against the verdict all he wants. But, unless or until Trump’s conviction is overturned, the presumption must

be that the verdict is legitimate and that it was arrived at by 12 ordinary citizens acting in good faith.

Perhaps Trump will prevail in the end. Maybe the conservatives on the U.S. Supreme Court will make the charges that he’s been convicted of in New York go away. They’ve already helped him by delaying one of his three other pending prosecutions while they ponder whether he has the right to assassinate his political opponents.

But any such change of fortune will happen because of process, not pronouncement. Making wild accusations about how Biden is somehow behind all of Trump’s legal woes (if he were really so powerful and corrupt, why would he let a Trump-appointed prosecutor drag his son Hunter into court?) denigrates our justice system and puts people’s lives at risk.

Knock it off.



By BILL LUEDERS

Progressive Perspectives

Bill Lueders, the former editor and now editor-at-large of *The Progressive*, is a writer in Madison, Wisconsin. This column was produced for *Progressive Perspectives*, a project of *The Progressive* magazine, and distributed by Tribune News Service.

Nixon understood what Trump won’t acknowledge

A half-century ago this August, a career congressman named Gerald Ford took the presidential oath in the White House East Room, proclaiming, “Our long national nightmare is over. Our Constitution works. Our republic is a government of laws, not of men.”

Ford was able to preside over an unexpectedly smooth transfer of power, marking the end of the two-year Watergate scandal, in large part because his disgraced predecessor, Richard Nixon, respected the institutions of government that produced his downfall and tearfully accepted their verdict.

But the transition was far more fraught with peril when Joe Biden, another career lawmaker, took his presidential oath in 2021 amid an even greater test of the nation’s constitutional underpinnings and, in language akin to Ford’s, declared, “America has been tested anew and America has risen to the challenge.”

In fact, that challenge to American democracy remains ongoing because Donald Trump, unlike Nixon, has refused to this day to respect the constitutional procedures—a free and open election—that ended his presidency.

Instead, he has spent more than three years inaccurately and dishonestly persuading millions of supporters and intimidating timid GOP leaders to believe Biden’s victory was somehow tainted. Even more unfortunately, he is seeking a return to power—and may get it—on a platform of vengeance against all who counted him out or launched the proceedings that led to 88 state and federal felony indictments against him.

Those two contrasting examples came to mind when Trump, not for the first time, made clear how much he disrespects our nation’s legal processes in condemning the 34 felony convictions in his New York hush money trial, the district attorney who brought the charges and the judge who presided over the proceedings.

“These are bad people,” the former president said in what was billed as a press conference but turned into a typical

Trump rant. Judge Juan Merchan, he said, “looks like an angel, but he’s really a devil.”

He concluded, again inaccurately, “This is all done by Biden and his people,” falsely blaming the president and Justice Department for a prosecution that, in fact, was brought by the elected district attorney of New York County.

And using words that were far truer than he might have realized, Trump said, “This is a case where if they can do this to me, they can do this to anyone.” He had it backward. As Biden put it later that day in his first comments on the verdict: “The American principle that no one is above the law was reaffirmed.”

In recent years, many people have asked me, as a journalist who covered the Senate during the Watergate era, to compare the two presidents whose flouting of the proprieties and the laws caught up with them, Nixon via the impeachment process and Trump through the criminal process.

Their cases are, of course, not precisely parallel. The institutions of government rendered a final judgment on Nixon, which made it impossible for him to remain as president. The nation’s voters rendered one judgment on Trump’s presidency and one of its judicial institutions another, both of which he might still be able to politically and legally reverse.

But it is hard to imagine Trump ever saying anything like the words Nixon used nearly 50 years ago when he bowed to the inevitable and resigned, noting he no longer had the votes to prevent impeachment in the House and conviction in the Senate.

In his official farewell speech to the nation, he said he was acting to hasten “the start of that process of healing which is so desperately needed in America,” declaring that “if some of my judgments were wrong, and some were wrong, they were made in what I believed at the time to be the best interest of the Nation.”

Then, in a second, more personal speech the next morning, a tearful White House farewell to friends, supporters, staffers and family members, he blamed himself. “Always remember, others

By CARL P. LEUBSDORF

The Dallas Morning News

Carl P. Leubsdorf is the former Washington bureau chief of the Dallas Morning News.



may hate you, but those who hate you don’t win unless you hate them, and then you destroy yourself.” Nixon said.

That is a lesson Trump has not yet fully learned, that much of what he rails against was brought on not by his enemies but by his own ego and his disrespect of the nation’s laws and political proprieties—and that his means of dealing with it may not achieve the result he claims to seek.

Indeed, as the contrast between Trump’s reaction to his conviction and Nixon’s reaction to his forced resignation makes clear, Trump has shown by word and deed that he disrespects the legal and the constitutional process—if he truly understands it. Nixon, even while resisting and fighting it, showed ultimately he respected it.

That is why the Nixon-Ford transition went so smoothly and the Trump-Biden one didn’t. And it is why the forthcoming election could result in an even greater threat to our democratic processes should Trump again be defeated and, as he has already suggested, again challenge the result.

Ironically, the fact that he seems likely to spend the next five months railing against his conviction, the courts, the Biden presidency and the unfairness of it all—instead of offering a positive vision for the years ahead—may ultimately prove decisive in determining that result.

LEADER

From page 6

other Western countries. This trend, they think, will “increase the likelihood of conflict” and is reminiscent of the 1930s.

The Biden administration’s defense, and indeed the entire “new Washington consensus,” counters that in this new quasi-Cold War with China, as in the original Cold War with the Soviet Union, security trumps markets. That’s true, up to a point. It would be naive and dangerous if the U.S. and its allies, in the

name of free trade, made themselves dependent on, say, Chinese lithium or dysprosium or semiconductors.

But is steel really one of these sensitive “dual-use” technologies? Are solar panels, ship-to-shore cranes, face masks or many of the other items on Biden’s latest tariff list? By all means, the U.S. and its allies should, in the argot of the new Washington consensus, “de-risk” their relationship with China. But the suspicion remains that the U.S., across both sides of the aisle and both presidential campaigns, has turned protectionist.

If so, this shift has frightening implications for the world economy and world peace. Hegemonic Stability Theory, which

posits that the world needs a custodian power to maintain order and prosperity, assumes that the global leader is not only mighty enough but also willing to deploy its might to preserve a liberal system. “It’s about benevolent or malevolent hegemony,” Posen of the Peterson Institute told me. “Not: Is the U.S. capable? But: What does it intend to do?”

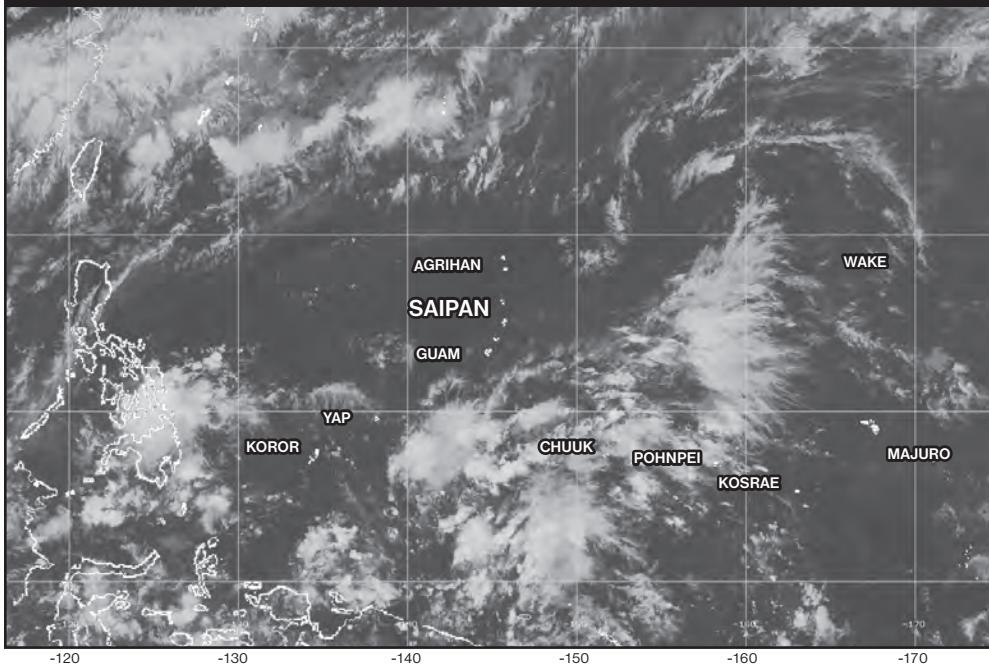
History teaches, Hegel said, “that peoples and governments never have learned anything from history.” If the U.S., under Biden or any president, wants to remain the indispensable nation, it better bone up on Smoot-Hawley’s ugly history, prove Hegel wrong and once again act like a benevolent leader.

The Weather

5-DAY FORECAST FOR SAIPAN AND TINIAN

TODAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
87°	78°	87°	77°	88°

YESTERDAY'S SATELLITE IMAGE



PICTURE TIME: 7:06 AM MONDAY, JUNE 10, 2024

Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

Gentle trades prevail in the region. Satellite imagery indicates a broad surface trough well east of the Marianas approaching eastern Saipan waters. Rigidian buoy and recent altimetry passes indicate seas are 3 to 5 feet.

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam homepage: <https://www.weather.gov/gum/>

MICRONESIA		▲	▼	°F
Guam and Rota	Cloudy			85° / 78°
Palau	Partly cloudy			84° / 77°
Yap	Partly cloudy			85° / 79°
Chuuk	Thunderstorms			86° / 80°
Pohnpei	Thunderstorms			86° / 76°
Kosrae	Partly cloudy			87° / 80°
Majuro	Partly cloudy			84° / 81°

DAY	SUNRISE	SUNSET
Today	5:46 AM	6:47 PM
Wednesday	5:46 AM	6:47 PM
Thursday	5:46 AM	6:47 PM
Friday	5:46 AM	6:48 PM
Saturday	5:46 AM	6:48 PM

DAY	MOONRISE	MOONSET	MOONRISE
Today	9:49 AM	10:56 PM	-
Wednesday	10:40 AM	11:33 PM	-
Thursday	11:28 AM	-	-
Friday	-	12:08 AM	12:14 PM
Saturday	-	12:40 AM	1:00 PM

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AROUND THE GLOBE

		▲	▼	°F
Auckland	Rain			64° / 53°
Beijing	Fair			96° / 69°
Hong Kong	Light Rain Shower			86° / 77°
Honolulu	Partly Cloudy			84° / 73°
London	Partly Cloudy			68° / 46°
Los Angeles	Cloudy			70° / 59°
Manila	Thunderstorms			88° / 81°
Melbourne	Mostly Cloudy			60° / 51°
Miami	Thunderstorms			84° / 74°
New York	Partly Cloudy			76° / 67°
Osaka	Mostly Cloudy			81° / 64°
Paris	Sunny			73° / 52°
Busan	Partly Cloudy			78° / 65°
Rome	Thunderstorms			80° / 59°
Salem	Mostly Cloudy			84° / 63°
San Francisco	Partly Cloudy			65° / 52°
Seoul	Sunny			86° / 63°
Tokyo	Cloudy			78° / 65°
Washington, DC	Mostly Cloudy			82° / 70°

TIDES: SAIPAN HARBOR TODAY FEET

12:16 AM	High Tide	1.96
5:40 AM	Low Tide	1.45
9:39 AM	High Tide	1.78
5:21 PM	Low Tide	0.07

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FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF JUNE 1, 2024

DEPARTURES					ARRIVALS				
SAIPAN-GUAM (GUM)					GUAM (GUM)-SAIPAN				
UA076	9:50AM	10:35AM	Daily		UA174	8:00AM	8:50AM	Daily	
SAIPAN- NARITA (NRT)					NARITA (NRT)-SAIPAN				
UA824	11:50AM	2:25PM	1, 3, 5		UA825	5:30PM	9:55PM	2, 4, 7	
GUAM-MANILA (MNL)					MANILA (MNL)-GUAM				
PR 111	5:55AM	7:55AM	Daily		PR110	10:30PM	4:25AM+1	Daily	
UA193	6:50PM	10:55PM	2, 5 via Palau		UA184	10:25PM	4:20AM+1	1, 3, 4, 6, 7	
UA183	7:10PM	9:10PM	Daily		UA192	10:25PM	6:15AM+1	2, 5 via Palau	
SAIPAN-MANILA (MNL)					MANILA (MNL)-SAIPAN				
7C3403/2305	4:45AM	10:20PM	Daily		UA192/174	10:25PM	8:50AM+1	2, 5 via Palau, Guam	
UA076/183	9:50AM	9:10PM	Daily via Guam		UA184/174	10:25PM	8:50AM+1	1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via Guam	
UA076/193	9:50AM	10:55PM	2, 5 via Guam, Palau		UA184/174	11:50PM	8:50AM+1	2, 5 via Guam	
SAIPAN-INCHEON (ICN)					INCHEON (ICN)-SAIPAN				
TW308	3:15AM	7:00AM	Daily		7C3406	9:30AM	3:10PM	Daily	
7C3405	4:10PM	7:45PM	Daily		TW307	8:15PM	1:40AM+1	Daily	
7C3403	4:45AM	8:35AM	Daily		7C3404	10:10PM	3:40AM+1	Daily	
SAIPAN-HONG KONG (HKG)					HONG KONG (HKG)-SAIPAN				
HX77	4:05AM	7:00AM	1, 5		HX76	7:25PM	2:35AM+1	4, 7	
LEGEND: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); UA United Airlines; PR, Philippine Airlines; TW, TWay Air; OZ, Asiana Airlines; 7C, Jeju Air; BX, Air Busan • ETD: Estimated Time of Departure; ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. (The Saipan Tribune is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)									
STAR MARIANAS AIR, INC.									
FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF JANUARY 2, 2024									
SAIPAN TO ROTA									
FLIGHT #	FROM	TO	DEPARTS	ARRIVES	FREQUENCY				
1301	SAIPAN	ROTA	08:30	09:00	Daily				
1302	SAIPAN	ROTA	10:30	11:00	Daily				
1303	SAIPAN	ROTA	15:30	16:00	Daily				
ROTA TO SAIPAN									
FLIGHT #	FROM	TO	DEPARTS	ARRIVES	FREQUENCY				
3101	ROTA	SAIPAN	9:30	10:00					

Radewagen applauds DOJ letter to Congress on Insular Cases

WASHINGTON, D.C.—Delegate Uifa'atali Amata Radewagen (R-A. Samoa) applauds the recent letter sent by the Department of Justice to members of Congress regarding the Insular Cases.

"We support Congressional and DOJ repudiation of race prejudice in 1901-1922 Insular Cases," said Radewagen. "But we also call for Congressional and DOJ rejection of any further attempts like the *Fitisemanu* case in 2022 for courts to change the political status of American Samoa under the 1900-1904 Deeds of Cession, unless initiated and approved by our people through local self-determination."

Historical and legal background paper

■ Record of recent Congressional-DOJ correspondence on Insular Cases

As expected, the U.S. Department of Justice once again has confirmed jurisprudence of the so-called Insular Cases cannot properly be relied on to justify race-based discrimination against Americans in U.S. territories currently defined as "unincorporated" by U.S. Supreme Court rulings and statutory acts of Congress. Specifically, as reported by the press on June 3, the DOJ Office for Legislative Affairs (OLA) has responded to an April 15 letter to U.S. Attorney General Garland from 43 members in both houses of Congress, calling for DOJ to repudiate "racist rhetoric" in the Insular Cases. As previously stated by DOJ lawyers, OLA's response confirmed that DOJ "...unequivocally condemns the racist rhetoric and reasoning of the Insular Cases," and that, "Department litigator...will not rely on the racist rhetoric and reasoning of the Insular Cases."

On May 7, 2024, Radewagen also wrote to Attorney General Garland supporting the April 15 letter by her Congressional colleagues. Radewagen, however, additionally requested the Attorney General to ensure DOJ will not rely on the Insular Cases doctrine of territorial non-incorporation to justify federal actions that would purport to change the current political status of American Samoa without local democratic self-determination. That request was based on the American principle of government by consent that is not only recognized under the 1900-1904 Deeds of Cession establishing relations between the U.S. and American Samoa, but applies to Americans in all current U.S. territories under applicable decolonization provisions in Article I (2) and Article 73 (a)-(b) of the U.N. Charter, to which the U.S. is a full party.

Distinguishing legal principles and political

questions

The May 7 letter from Radewagen to the Attorney General requested DOJ commitment to self-determination beyond the repudiation of long ago nullified racist logic and reasoning in the Insular Cases. On behalf of the people of American Samoa, assurances are sought that not only Department litigators but DOJ in its entirety, including OLA, won't rely on Insular Cases to justify discrimination against Americans in the territories that denies local self-determination, through political measures that in effect would constitute anachronistic imperialist and colonialist policies.

That is why in lieu of simply signing the April 15 letter to the U.S. Attorney General which she supported as to other unincorporated territories, Radewagen chose to send her own letter to advise vigilance not only against vestiges of overt institutionalized and impermissible racism under the Insular Cases in the modern era. Rather, the May 7 letter opposed equally the actual present day colonialist and imperialist alteration of the political status of territories without local democratic self-determination. While overt official racism has been illegal and unconstitutional in America for seven decades under federal court rulings and civil rights laws, there is no statute or court ruling holding that political measures constituting imperialism and colonialism are not illegal and unconstitutional. That underscores the fact that under the Territorial Clause political status of territories remains a political question for Congress, and, so far, not a constitutional question within jurisdiction of the federal courts.

In that respect, the OLA letter does not repudiate the actual federal territorial law of the Insular Cases defining unincorporated territory status. That is consistent with both legal and political realities recognized in the modern era Insular Cases from 1957 to 2022, including the necessity that any change from non-incorporated political status for any territory requires Congress to define and recognize a new political status for each territory compatible with the U.S. Constitution. In addition, any new political status must be approved through local self-determination consistent with the principle of government by consent and U.S. commitments as a party to the U.N. Charter, as well as the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights.

Legal scholars advise Congress retains the power to alter the political status of territories without democratic self-determination, and federal courts can repeat the history of the Insular Cases by once again mandating political status by court edict deciding a political question reserved to Congress under the Constitution. But without self-determination by Americans in each territory, any invasion of the power and responsibility of Congress by the courts would be a return to the imperialist and colonialist jurisprudence of the 1901-1922 Insular Cases. That is why, as Justice Kagan recognized in the court's opinion in *Puerto Rico v. Sanchez Valle* (2016), the federal courts can sustain juridical order, but Congress rather than the courts must resolve the currently remaining political questions arising from both the historical legacy of the Insular Cases and current federal statute law that codifies non-incorporation doctrine.

For example, the case of *Fitisemanu v. U.S.* (2022), referred to favorably in the April 15 letter signed by 43 members of Congress, must be understood as an attempt to use the federal courts to change political status and federal relations for Americans Samoa without local self-determination. That would have repeated the original sin of the Insular Cases, which was determination of the political question of territorial status by the judicial branch instead of Congress.

In the case of *Balzac v. Puerto Rico* (1922), the court went beyond the original judicial activism of *Downes v. Bidwell* (1901), which invented the unincorporated territory doctrine, which had applied only to non-citizens in unincorporated territories until 1917. For the first time in American history since the Northwest Ordinance regulated territorial status resolution, the Balzac ruling extended and continued a court created political status to a territory after Congress conferred citi-

zenship for the population. It is in that historical context that the *Fitisemanu* case in effect sought to impose U.S. citizenship under the *Balzac* ruling to American Samoa. That would have been an imperialist and colonialist outcome altering the non-citizen national status of American Samoans, based on presumption the island people did not want or need to be consulted. Legal experts on decolonization have described *Fitisemanu* as an attempt to impose an undemocratic, imperialist and colonialist change of political status without self-determination.

Constitutionalism and Insular Cases

Overt impermissible race-based discrimination has been unconstitutional since the 1954 ruling by the U.S. Supreme Court in *Brown v. Board of Education* and the Civil Rights Act of 1964. In contrast, without government by consent and self-determination there is no constitutional prohibition to DOJ reliance on the actual law of the Insular Cases to continue discrimination against Americans in the territories based on politically determined imperialism and colonialism.

Thus, it may be generally agreed that some 20 words expressing racist attitudes but not constituting the law of the case in *Downes v. Bidwell* (1901) still warrant vigilance about racist "rhetoric" in the Insular Cases. Similarly, although the *Downes* ruling applied to the foreign populations in the Philippines, Puerto Rico, and Guam, handed down by the court because Congress had not determined nationality status in those territories, there may be general agreement as well to repudiate any racist "reasoning" that may be identified in the Insular Cases rulings from 1901-1922.

Still, as noted by the press, the OLA letter does not even imply that the department will seek to overturn the non-incorporation doctrine of the Insular Cases. That is prudent because overturning the implicitly imperialist, colonialist and racism tainted Insular Cases decided 1901-1922 arguably would also overturn the Insular Cases decided 1957-2022. That would leave the territories without any political status defined under federal law, unless the court decided to invent, define and impose a temporary political status until Congress determines a new political status policy for each territory. Of course, that is exactly what the court did in 1901, leading Congress to treat the Insular Cases not as not as a judicial call to action on nationality and status to instead to be used by Congress for 124 years as an excuse for non-action on status resolution for the last five territories.

Correcting abdication of Congressional power or repeating original sin of Insular Cases?

It was widely welcomed that the OLA reply to the April 15 letter from Congress members to Attorney General Garland includes quotations by Department litigators in federal court proceedings going even further in condemning and repudiating the Insular Cases than OLA's confirmation of DOJ policy. Thus, instead of suggesting the Department is standardizing the practices of litigators to end racism, the OLA letter is encouraging because it confirms the litigators are standardizing the practices of DOJ's non-litigators to conform with the legal position of DOJ before the federal courts and under controlling case law. That includes DOJ repre-

sentation of the U.S. in litigation leading to the 1957-2022 Insular Cases rulings that are not identified as relying on racist rhetoric or reasoning. These include, *Reid v. Covert* (1957), *Board of Examiners v. Flores De Otero* (1976), *Boumediene v. Bush* (2008) and *Puerto Rico v. Sanchez Valle* (2016). The majorities in some of those Insular Cases rulings included Thurgood Marshall, Ruth Bader Ginsberg and Elena Kagan, not exactly your typical roster of racist imperialist, colonialist justices.

In the final analysis, the political status dilemma the court created in the 1901-1922 Insular Cases by inventing the unincorporated territory paradigm cannot be fixed by the court, much less DOJ lawyers. The attempt to do so commits anew the original sin of the Insular Cases. Under Article IV, Sec. 3, Cl. 2 of the U.S. Constitution, Congress alone has the authority and responsibility to fix what the court broke by deviating from the Northwest Ordinance tradition of territorial status resolution. For, that is the best understanding of non-incorporation, and the pathway to restoring a truly anti-imperialist, non-colonial and non-racist political status model, nowhere explained more clearly than by Justice Kagan in the court's opinion for the *Sanchez Valle* case:

"...one power Congress does not have, just in the nature of things: it has no capacity, no magic wand or airbrush to erase or otherwise rewrite its own foundational role in conferring political authority. Or otherwise said, the delegator cannot make itself any less so—no matter how much authority it opts to hand over... Because when we trace that authority all the way back, we arrive at the doorstep of the U.S. Capitol..." (PR)

Navy awards \$122M Japan-funded contacts in Guam

JOINT BASE PEARL HARBOR-HICKAM—Naval Facilities Engineering Systems Command Pacific awarded two firm-fixed price task order Government of Japan-funded contracts totaling \$122 million for work at Marine Corps Base Camp Blaz in Guam.

Both contracts support the Defense Policy Review Initiative and is funded by the GOJ as part of the International Agreement between the United States and Japan.

"We're pleased to have reached these significant project milestones," said Florence Ching, director of NAVFAC Pacific Guam Program Management Office. "When both projects are completed, these

two facilities will be an important part of MCBCB, providing essential capabilities for Marine Corps personnel and operations."

The first contract, valued at \$78,432,217, was awarded on April 10 to Hensel Phelps Shimm JV of Greeley, Colorado for the construction of a new single-story corrosion repair facility at MCBCB. This facility will feature reinforced concrete walls, flooring, foundations, and roofing, and will include comprehensive fire protection, mechanical, plumbing, electrical, and telecom systems designed to withstand Guam's earthquake and environmental conditions. The construction will also meet the unified facilities criteria, incorporating anti-terrorism/force protection requirements. The expected completion date is October 2026.

The second contract, worth \$44,265,264.00, was issued on May 2 to Caddell-Nan a Joint Venture of Montgomery, Alabama, for the construction of a two-story education center at MCBCB. The work is aimed at providing primary education and family services to active duty Marines and their families stationed in Guam. The facility's design includes an academic instruction facility, family service center, library, education services office, common areas, and incidental related work. The expected completion date is May 2026.

"It's truly remarkable to witness the steady progress of construction milestones throughout the installation," remarked Col. Ernest Govea, commanding officer of MCBCB. "These projects hold the promise of not only enhancing capabilities for our warfighters upon completion but also fostering enduring benefits for our community through construction efforts and the creation of permanent job opportunities."

NAVFAC is the Naval Shore Facilities, Base Operating Support, and Expeditionary Engineering Systems Command that delivers life-cycle technical and acquisition solutions aligned to Fleet and Marine Corps priorities. (PR)

Business

Atkins Kroll welcomes arrival of the 2025 Lexus NX

Atkins Kroll (Saipan), Inc. is thrilled to announce the arrival of the highly anticipated 2025 Lexus NX to the CNMI. As a leading automotive dealer, Atkins Kroll is proud to present this luxury compact SUV, which promises to redefine driving experiences with its blend of sophisticated design, advanced technology and powerful performance.

Clark Boswell, general manager of Atkins Kroll (Saipan), Inc., expressed his excitement about the new addition to their lineup. "The 2025 Lexus NX embodies the innovation and luxury that our customers expect from Lexus. We are incredibly excited to offer this exceptional vehicle to our customers in the CNMI. With its advanced features and superior performance, the NX is set to elevate the driving experience to new heights."

The 2025 Lexus NX comes equipped with a robust 2.5-liter 4-cylinder engine that delivers an impressive 203 horsepower, ensuring a dynamic and responsive driving experience. Paired with an 8-speed automatic



ATKINS KROLL

The 2025 Lexus NX comes equipped with a robust 2.5-liter 4-cylinder engine that delivers an impressive 203 horsepower, ensuring a dynamic and responsive driving experience.

transmission, the NX offers smooth and efficient performance, making it ideal for Saipan's roadways.

Inside the cabin, the 2025 NX boasts a state-of-the-art 9.8-inch touchscreen display, providing intuitive access to the vehicle's infotainment system and connectivity features. This ensures that drivers and passengers stay informed and entertained throughout their journey.

Additional new features include:

■ Auto rain sensor wipers: Automatically adjusts the wiper speed based on the intensity of the rain, ensuring clear visibility in all weather conditions.

■ Power back door: Offers convenient hands-free access to the rear cargo area, making loading and unloading effortless.

■ Intuitive parking assist with automatic braking:

Enhances safety by detecting obstacles and automatically applying the brakes to prevent collisions during parking maneuvers.

■ Lane Tracing Assist (LTA): Helps keep the vehicle centered in its lane, providing a more relaxed driving experience on highways.

■ Lexus Safety System: A comprehensive suite of safety features designed to protect the driver and passengers, including advanced driver-assistance systems.

■ Pre-Collision System (PCS) with pedestrian detection: Detects potential collisions with vehicles and pedestrians, and can automatically apply the brakes to mitigate or prevent an accident.

"The combination of cutting-edge technology and luxurious comfort in the 2025 Lexus NX makes it a standout choice for discerning drivers," added Boswell. "We invite everyone to visit our showroom and experience the unparalleled quality and performance of the new NX for themselves."

Atkins Kroll (Saipan), Inc. invites all automotive enthui-

siasts and potential buyers to explore the 2025 Lexus NX at their Saipan showroom. Test drives are available, and knowledgeable sales staff are on hand

to provide detailed information and assist with any inquiries.

For more information, contact Boswell at clark.boswell@aksaipan.com. (PR)

Full house at SBDC's Boots to Business training event



SBDC

U.S. Small Business Administration's Guam branch manager Ken Lujan, Veterans Business Outreach Center of the Pacific director Dennis Kwak, and CNMI SBDC network director Nadine C. Deleon Guerrero pose for a group photo with the Boots to Business training event participants.

The CNMI Small Business Development Center Network is thrilled to announce the resounding success of its Boots to Business training event held last June 4 at the Pacific Islands Club Saipan. The event saw a full house, with enthusiastic participation from veterans, military service members, and their families.

Dennis Kwak, director of the Veterans Business Outreach Center of the Pacific, brought a wealth of knowledge to our clients, providing comprehensive insights into business ownership and fostering engaging interactions with participants. His expertise and dynamic presentation were instrumental in equipping attendees with the tools and confidence needed to embark on their entrepreneurial journeys.

In addition to Kwak, the event featured valuable contributions from guest speakers Kenneth Lujan and David Burger. While Kwak provided a broad scope of support, Lujan and Burger offered more regionally and locally relevant advice. The Guam branch manager of the U. S. Small Business Administration, Lujan addressed specific business opportunities and challenges within the CNMI, and managing partner of local accounting firm Burger & Comer, LLC, Burger delved into critical legal aspects of business ownership, including the various legal forms of small business entities and the importance of selecting a robust BAIL (banking, accounting, insurance, and legal) team.

The CNMI SBDC Network continues to stand by our veterans, offering ongoing support and resources to ensure their entrepreneurial success. For more information on our programs and services, visit our website at www.cnmisbdc.com or follow us on our social media channels @cnmisbdc on Instagram or CNMI Small Business Development Center Network on Facebook to stay updated with our upcoming events and business opportunities.

For further inquiries, call (670) 237-6888 or via email at adelpha.magofna@marianas.edu. (PR)

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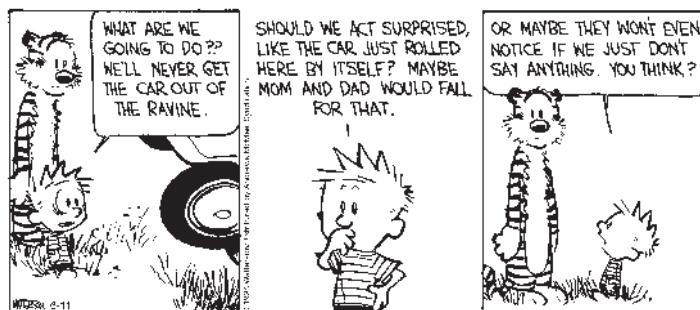
Hafa Adai!

Saipan Tribune

THE CNMI'S FIRST DAILY NEWSPAPER

Pastimes

Calvin and Hobbes



By Bill Waterson

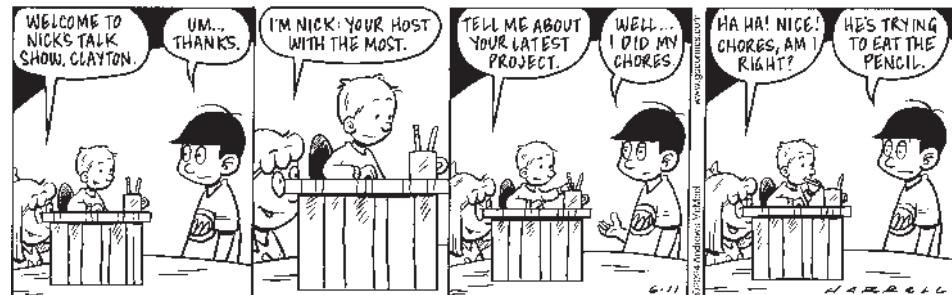


Garfield®



By Jim Davis

Adam@home



By Bryan Basset

The Duplex



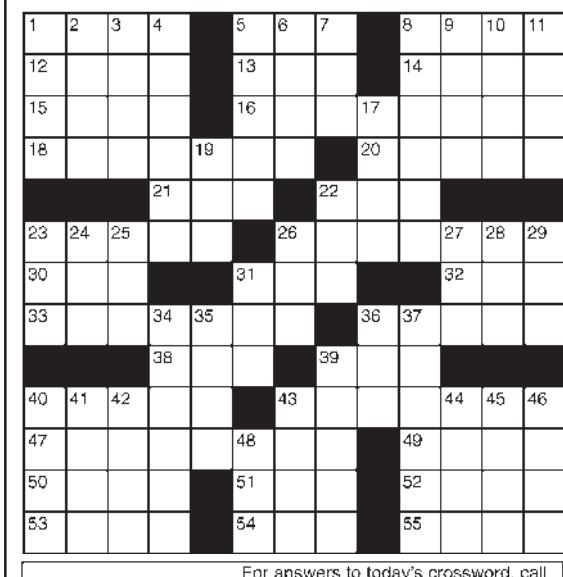
By Glenn McCoy

CROSSWORD

By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS	40 "The Stranger" author	3 Down	22 Antlered animal
1 Male deer	Stranger	wind	23 AMA
5 Boy king	author	4 Avid	member
8 Streetcar	43 Without	5 Stanley	24 Piercing
12 Roly-	question	47 Climbing	tool
13 Swiss	plant	49 Belafonte	25 Born
canton	song	50 "Misery"	Lincoln or Ford,
14 Medal	star James	51 Giverny	e.g.
recipient	sch.	summer	27 Glist
15 Grade	52 Daring	52 Grammy-	28 Away
sch.	Knievel	winning	from
16 Baseball	53 Taylor of	singer	NNW
Hall-of-	"Mystic	Houston	29 Finish
Famer	Pizza"	9 Nevada	31 "You
Roberto	54 Badge	city	betcha!!"
18 Rabbis,	metal	10 — and	34 Grads
priests,	55 Frisbee,	crafts	35 Travel
et al.	e.g.	11 Cham-	permit
20 Short	56 —	pagne	36 Ram's
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sion	and	37 Like ice	37
speech	58	skates	39 Mary-
21 Actor	59	39	Kate or
Maher-	Badge	40	Ashley
shala	metal	41	40 Roman
22 Shade	50	42	350
tree	Badge	43	41 Jai —
23 "Divine	51	44	42 Repast
Comedy"	Badge	45	43 New
author	52	46	York's —
26 Sanitize	Badge	47	Field
30 Have bills	Badge	48	44 Sitarist
31 Tibetan	Badge	49	45 Caustic
bovine	Badge	50	agents
32 Admiral's	Badge	51	46 Egg
org.	Badge	52	part
33 Butcher's	Badge	53	48 Asian
need	Badge	54	holiday
36 Receded			
38 Sass			
39 Hooting			
bird			

Yesterday's answer 6-11



CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY:

Claire Holt, 36; Shia LaBeouf, 38; Peter Dinklage, 55; Hugh Laurie, 65.

Happy Birthday: Think before you act. Having common sense and the emotional energy to reach your desired goal will offer comfort and peace of mind. It's time to please yourself and take responsibility for your happiness and prospects. Refuse to let outside influences come between you and what you want to achieve. Direct your energy, learn as you go and expand your interests in areas that help you meet your needs. Your numbers are 8, 19, 22, 27, 32, 36, 44.

ARIES (March 21-April 19): Research where your money goes. Set up a budget you can live with, and put an end to unnecessary subscriptions and expenses. Use intelligence, insight and energy to reach your potential. Look for opportunities and alliances that contribute to your long-term goals. Love and self-improvement are favored.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): Change will cause emotional conflict if you don't offer a reasonable explanation. Keep your expenses down in order to avoid criticism. Having a solid plan will make your life easier and your success tangible. Channel your energy appropriately, and you'll deter anyone poised to apply pressure.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): Protect your home and possessions. Don't make costly changes to please others. Consider your budget and pay only what you feel comfortable spending. An opportunity to broaden your interests, knowledge or friendships is favored. Listen carefully.

CANCER (June 21-July 22): Work by yourself until you are satisfied with your results. Refrain from allowing others to

interfere with your vision or disrupt your plans. Share when you feel confident and happy with what you have accomplished.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): Making a premature change under emotional duress will backfire. Take the time to think things through and fulfill your dream. Timing is essential; prepare thoroughly and act accordingly. Romance is favored, and participating in something meaningful will lead to close encounters with someone special.

VIRO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Don't second-guess yourself or let someone confuse you with false rhetoric. Put your effort and energy where it counts. Research and trust in your ability to find success and happiness. Change isn't dependent on others; it begins with you. Be the one to make a difference.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): Use your knowledge to improve your life. An open mind and action will help you expand your options and follow through with your plans. Don't let anger interfere with what you want to accomplish. Don't stop until you reach your destination.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Pay attention to price tags and fast-talking salespeople. You'll find a deal that offers the desired results once you decide what is legitimate. Turn your attention to something that intrigues you, and you'll discover a new pastime that fills a void.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Refrain from letting anyone suppress or limit you. Take charge, speak for yourself and question anything that doesn't make sense. Put your time and energy into research and action. Opportunity knocks, and being able to take advantage without hesitation or

EUGENIA LAST

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY



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fear will lead to success.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Take stock at home, decide what's disposable and sell what you no longer need. The process will result in a revelation that excites and encourages you to move more inventory and bring in additional cash. Double-check instructions and facts; someone will mislead you if it benefits them.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Sit tight and let the dust settle. Too much too fast will lead to vulnerability. Take charge, ask questions and put a plan in place that is easy for you to handle. Social events, personal improvements and love are in the stars.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): Stop, look, listen, assess and proceed. Caution is necessary to make the most of your time and money. Refrain from counting on others for help or to tell you the truth. Any change you make will require your undivided attention. Temptation and emotional manipulation are apparent.

Birthday Baby: You are chatty, aggressive and changeable. You are passionate and helpful.

• Avoid conflicts; work behind the scenes. • You can accomplish, but don't rely on others. • Focus and you'll reach your goals. • Aim high; start new projects. • Nothing can stop you; go for gold.

SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku

By Dave Green

	3	9	5	8							
	2		1								
7	9		8	4	5						
	7	3	8	5	1						
1	8	6	9	5	2	7					
	3	1		9							
	1	5		8							
	8	2	4	3							
3	7	4		6		9					

Difficulty: ★★

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Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Yesterday's Answer

4	3	2	8	5	7	6	9	1
7	5	8	9	1	6	3	4	2
9	1	6	2	4	3	5	7	8
3	4	5	1	9	8	7	2	6
6	7	1	4	3	2	8	5	9
2	8	9	6	7	5	1	3	4
5	9	4	7	8	1	2	6	3
8	2	3	5	6	4	9	1	7
1	6	7	3	2	9	4	8	5

Difficulty: ★

6/11

WONDERWORD

By DAVID OUELLET

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally and even backward. Find them, circle each letter of the word and strike it off the list. The leftover letters spell the WONDERWORD.

TRUE DETECTIVE: NIGHT COUNTRY

Solution: 6 letters

A	C	Y	R	O	T	A	R	O	B	A	L	Y	A	K
T	G	O	B	E	N	N	E	T	T	S	A	L	A	L
S	R	U	R	A	D	I	S	A	P	P	E	A	R	A
R	S	O	I	S	L	R	E	E	E	L	A	M	N	S
E	C	V	O	N	A	N	A	B	E	I	D</			

Celtics beat Mavericks, take 2-0 lead as series heads to Dallas



BOSTON (AP)—

Jrue Holiday led the scoring. Derrick White added a chase-down block. Jayson Tatum and Jaylen Brown pitched in, too—with their passing and defense.

The Mavericks can stop worrying about who Boston's best player is. Everyone is contributing to the Celtics' quest for an unprecedented 18th NBA championship.

Holiday had 26 points and 11 rebounds, and White sprinted down the court to swat away the Mavericks' last chance on Sunday night as Boston beat Dallas 105-98 to take a 2-0 lead in the NBA Finals.

Tatum made up for a rough shooting night with 12 assists and nine rebounds to go with his 18 points. Brown scored 21 with three steals, White had 18 points and three steals, and Payton Pritchard's only basket of the game was a banked half-court to beat the third quarter buzzer and give Boston an 83-74 lead.

"That's why they are the No. 1 team in the NBA with the No. 1 record," said Mavericks star Luka Doncic, who scored 32 with 11 rebounds and 11 assists—the first NBA Finals triple-double in Dallas franchise history. "They have a lot of great players. Basically, anybody can get off."

Doncic, who was listed as questionable to play less than two hours before the opening tipoff, had his 10th career playoff triple-double. But he scored only three points in the fourth, converting a three-point play with 1:15 left as Dallas scored nine in a row to cut a 14-point deficit to 103-98.

After Derrick Jones Jr. blocked



Boston Celtics guard Jrue Holiday takes a shot over Dallas Mavericks forward P.J. Washington (25) during the first half of Game 2 of the NBA Finals basketball series, Sunday, June 9, 2024, in Boston.

ing and 1 of 7 from 3-point range; the Celtics were 10 for 39 from long distance overall.

"I'm really tired of hearing about one guy or this guy or that guy and everybody trying to make it out to be anything other than Celtic basketball," Boston coach Joe Mazzulla said. "Everybody that stepped on that court today made winning plays on both ends of the floor."

Unlike their 107-89 victory in Game 1, when Boston went 7 for 15 from 3-point range in the first quarter to sprint to a 17-point lead, the Celtics missed their first eight attempts from long range on Sunday. Dallas led the entire first quarter.

Tatum was scoreless in the first and had only five at halftime, when he was still 0 for 3 from 3-point range. Boston was still just 5 for 30 from long distance when Pritchard banked in a half-court at the third-quarter buzzer to give Boston an 83-74 lead.

That excited the crowd, which previously had spent most of its time serenading Irving with boos—and semi-vulgar chants. Before the game, the scoreboard showed Irving's postgame quote from Game 1, where he said he thought the crowd would be louder.

The fans roared. Irving, who scored 16 points, has lost 12 games in a row against the Celtics.

"A little disappointed in myself not being able to convert a lot more of my opportunities in the lane," he said. "My teammates look for me to convert a lot of shots and lessen the burden not only on Luka but the entire team."

Tatum's dunk attempt, White ran down the court, joining with Brown to block P.J. Washington's potential dunk. Brown made a layup at the other end, and then Doncic missed a one-footed, running floater from 3-point range with 28 seconds left, ending Dallas' last chance at a comeback.

"It's not all on him. It's a team," Dallas coach Jason Kidd said of Doncic, who had been battling chest, knee and ankle injuries. "He put us in a position. He was really good tonight. Unfortunately, we just couldn't

get over the hump. We've got to find someone to join Luka and (Kyrie Irving) in that scoring category."

Games 3 and 4 are Wednesday and Friday in Dallas; Boston has not lost on the road this postseason. It was the ninth time the Celtics have won the opening pair in the NBA Finals: They have won the previous eight, and have never been forced to a Game 7 in any of them.

A day after Kidd attempted to sow dissension in the Celtics locker room by calling Brown—not Tatum, an All-NBA first-teamer—the

team's best player, Boston showed why it doesn't matter. The two All-Stars combined to make 2 of 12 3-point attempts, but filled up the box score in other ways.

"How they play together is sacred, and something that can't be broken," Holiday said. "I don't prefer one or the other, I prefer both. Because they're both superstars, and they're showing it on the biggest stage in the world."

Kristaps Porzingis limped his way to 12 points for top-seeded Boston. Tatum was 6 for 22 shoot-

Luka's triple-double not enough to help Mavericks

BOSTON (AP)—Luka Doncic is piling up injuries and points in these NBA Finals.

But for the second straight game, he didn't get enough support from his Mavericks teammates. This time on a night when the Boston Celtics did everything possible to give Dallas a chance to steal a game on the road.

Doncic connected on 12 of 21 shots and finished with 32 points, 11 assists and 11 rebounds, marking his 10th career playoff triple double and the first Finals triple-double in Mavericks' history.

But his teammates went a combined 26 of 59 from the field on a night in which Boston went just 10 of 30 from the 3-point line, and All-Star Jayson Tatum shot 6 of 22 from the field as Boston won Game 2 105-98.

It all added up to a two-game deficit for the Mavericks as the best-of-seven series shifts to Dallas for Game 3 on Wednesday.

"Every game we lose is a missed opportunity for us," Doncic said when asked if he felt the Mavs missed a

chance to take advantage of an off night by the Celtics. "At the end of the day, we have to make shots to win the game."

It was the first Game 2 loss of these playoffs for Dallas, which had won three straight—all on the road. The Mavs now face the daunting task of having to beat a Boston team that has lost just twice this postseason in four out of five games. The Celtics are 6-0 on the road this postseason.

Dallas struggled from both the 3-point line (6 of 26) and the free throw line (16 of 24). Doncic was 4 of 8 from the foul line and had eight of his team's 15 turnovers.

"The small things, you know, we have to do the small things, and that's part of the game," Mavericks coach Jason Kidd said. "Those are points that we left on the board, and we didn't shoot free throws well tonight, and we have to be better."

Doncic started Game 2 after being listed as probable Sunday morning with a sprained right knee and left ankle before being downgraded to questionable by

the afternoon after a bruised chest was added to his list of ailments.

He was cleared to play after going through his pre-game warmup routine. Doncic believes he sustained the chest injury taking a charge in Game 1. During pregame introductions Doncic wore an ice wrap across the side of his chest and knee.

"I always want to play," Doncic said. "So all day we did a lot of things to get ready for the game."

It didn't seem to bother him at the outset, as he scored six of Mavericks' first 11 points and Dallas sprinted out to a 13-6 lead in the first quarter.

But his mobility did seem to be lacking on occasion. It showed later in the opening period when Jaylen Brown pushed the ball up the court on a fast break and crossed Doncic over before gliding past him for a two-handed dunk.

It didn't slow Doncic down on the offensive end, where he continued to chalk up points and have a verbal back-and-forth with a Celtics fan seated courtside after

making consecutive shots.

What may be most troubling for Dallas' hopes the rest of the series is the play of Kyrie Irving.

After finishing with just 12 points in Game 1—the second-fewest of his Finals' career—Irving improved with 16 points on 7-of-18 shooting, with six assists and two turnovers. But 10 of his points came in the first half, again leaving Doncic on an island down the stretch.

"My teammates look for me to convert a lot of shots and lessen the burden, not only on Luka but the entire team," Irving said. "It's on all of us, man. I'm pretty sure if you hear what everybody has to say, they'll say they have to do something better."

More Mavericks players were more involved than in Game 1, with all five Mavericks starters reaching double figures. It was a small consolation to Doncic.

"At the end of the day, we've got to make some more shots," he said. "I think my turnovers and my missed free throws cost us the game. So I've got to do way better in those two categories."

Two more charged in betting scandal that spurred NBA to bar Raptors' Jontay Porter for life

NEW YORK (AP)—Two more men were charged Thursday in the sports betting scandal that prompted the NBA to ban former Toronto Raptors player Jontay Porter for life.

Timothy McCormack and Mahmud Mollah now join two other men—Long Phi Pham and a fourth whose name remains redacted in a court complaint—as defendants in a federal wire fraud case about wagers allegedly based on tips from a player about his plans for life.

Prosecutors say McCormack, Mollah, Pham and the as-yet-unknown fourth defendant took part in a scheme to get "Player 1" to take himself off the court so that they could win bets against his performance.

And win they did, with Mollah's bets on a March 20 game netting over \$1 million, according to the complaint. It said Pham, the player and the unnamed defendant were each supposed to get about a quarter of those winnings, and McCormack a 4% cut, before a betting company got suspicious and blocked Mollah from collecting most of the money.

sent to an agent who has represented him.

An NBA investigation found in April that he tipped off bettors about his health and then claimed illness to exit at least one game and make some wagers succeed. Porter also gambled on NBA games in which he didn't play, once betting against his own team, the league said.

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Mets split London Series, rally in the ninth to beat Phillies, 6-5

 **L O N D O N**

(AP)—Catcher Luis Torrens turned Nick Castellanos' bases-loaded roller in front of the plate into a game-ending double play, and the New York Mets beat the Philadelphia Phillies 6-5 on Sunday for a split of their two-game London Series.

New York rallied from a 4-3 ninth-inning deficit against José Alvarado (1-3), who blew a save for the second time in 13 chances.

Mark Vientos hit an RBI single on a two-hopper that third baseman Alec Bohm tried to barehand. Pete Alonso forced in a run when was hit on his left thigh by a cutter, and catcher J.T. Realmuto allowed a run-scoring passed ball that put the Mets ahead 6-4.

Reed Garrett (6-2) got an out but allowed two batters to reach in the bottom half. Bryce Harper loaded the bases with a single off Drew Smith, and Bohm forced in a run with a walk.

GUARDIANS 6, MARLINS 3

MIAMI (AP)—Tyler Freeman hit a tie-breaking three-run homer in the seventh inning and Cleveland beat Miami.

Gabriel Arias also went deep and José Ramirez doubled and drove in his major league-leading 62nd run for the AL Central-leading Guardians, who improved to 42-22 and took the series.

After Brayan Rocchio and Steven Kwan singled with one out, Freeman connected off reliever A.J. Puk (0-7) with a drive over the wall in left field for his sixth homer and a 5-2 lead.

TIGERS 10, BREWERS 2

DETROIT (AP)—Jake Rogers hit a three-run homer to cap an eight-run fifth inning, Tarik Skubal earned his eighth win of the season and Detroit rolled to a victory over Milwaukee.

The eight-run inning was a season high for the Tigers, who snapped a three-game losing streak. Gio Urshela and Zach McKinstry each contributed a two-run single. Riley Greene finished with two doubles and an RBI.

Skubal (8-1) allowed one run and five hits while striking out 10 in 6 2/3 innings. The strikeout total was his second-highest this season. He fanned 12 against the New York Yankees on May 5.

ORIOLES 9, RAYS 2

ST. PETERSBURG, Fla. (AP)—Grayson Rodriguez took a perfect game into the sixth inning, Adley Rutschman hit a grand slam and drove in six runs, and Baltimore beat Tampa Bay.

Anthony Santander also



Farmer. Willi Castro was hit by a pitch for a second time in the game, bringing in another run with the bases loaded and no outs. Carlos Santana tacked on two more with a double to right ahead of a two-run single from Carlos Correa and another single from Max Kepler that made it 11-4.

Heller, who plunked three batters, has an ERA of 49.50.

Jhoan Durán (1-2) pitched a perfect ninth inning.

The Twins were shut out in the first two games of the three-game series after being swept in three games at Yankee Stadium. The Pirates finished a 4-2 homestand that included winning two of three against the Los Angeles Dodgers.

MARINERS 6, ROYALS 5, 10 INNINGS

KANSAS CITY, Mo. (AP)—Julio Rodríguez hit a tiebreaking single in the 10th inning, Cal Raleigh added a two-run single and Seattle held off Kansas City to avoid getting swept for the first time this season.

J.P. Crawford hit a lead-off homer and George Kirby pitched seven splendid innings for the AL West leaders,

who lost the first two games of the weekend series. Seattle squandered a two-run lead in the ninth but recovered to halt Kansas City's three-game winning streak.

M.J. Melendez hit a two-run homer off Mariners reliever Mike Baumann (3-0) with two outs in the ninth to tie it 3-all.

PADRES 13, DIAMONDBACKS 1

SAN DIEGO (AP)—Knuckleballer Matt Waldron combined with two relievers on a five-hitter, and Ha-Seong-Kim and Jake Cronenworth each hit a three-run homer for San Diego in a win against Arizona.

Kyle Higashioka hit a solo homer. David Peralta, who spent his first 8 1/2 seasons with the Diamondbacks, reached base five straight times and had three hits, two RBIs and scored twice. Cronenworth also had an RBI single to tie his season high.

The Diamondbacks turned to outfielder Pavin Smith to pitch the eighth. He hit Peralta with a pitch, walked Jackson Merrill, retired Kim and then watched first baseman Christian Walker commit an error that loaded the bases.

He got out of the jam but inducing Luis Arraez to hit into a double play.

Tatis walked in the second to extend his streak of reaching base to 18 games, one shy of his career best. He doubled in the fourth to match his career-best hitting streak of 14 games and was aboard for

Cronenworth's homer.

BLUE JAYS 6, ATHLETICS 4, 10 INNINGS

OAKLAND, Calif. (AP)—Isiah Kiner-Falefa hit a bases-loaded double in the 10th inning and finished with five RBIs as Toronto Blue beat Oakland.

Kiner-Falefa hit a 2-1 pitch into the gap in left-center with one out in the 10th, scoring Bo Bichette, Daulton Varsho and Ernie Clement to give Toronto a 6-3 lead.

Kiner-Falefa also had a two-run single as Toronto took the rubber match of the three-game series and won for the fourth time in five games.

Brent Rooker homered for Oakland, which scored more than three runs for the first time in seven games.

ANGELS 9, ASTROS 7

ANAHEIM, Calif. (AP)—Logan O'Hoppe hit a two-run homer with one out in the ninth to complete a four-hit game, and Los Angeles rallied for a victory over Houston despite Jose Altuve tying a career high with four hits.

After Kevin Pillar got aboard with a one-out single to left, O'Hoppe hit a slider from Josh Hader (3-4) deep to left field. Trey Cabbage tried to make a play on it near the short wall, but appeared to drop it as he went halfway over the wall.

Mickey Moniak and Michael Stefanic also drove in two runs apiece as the Angels avoided a series sweep.

Carlos Estévez (1-3) retired the Astros in the ninth to get the win.

YANKEES 6, DODGERS 4

NEW YORK (AP)—Trent Grisham hit a go-ahead, three-run homer, Aaron Judge and Oswaldo Cabrera also went deep and New York rallied for a victory over Los Angeles to prevent a three-game sweep in a series viewed as a possible World Series preview.

Teoscar Hernández's sixth-inning homer, his third of the series, had given the Dodgers a 3-2 lead against Luis Gil, one inning after the rookie allowed Mookie Betts' tying two-run double with two outs.

Starting because Juan Soto missed his third straight game due to forearm soreness, Grisham drove a fastball from Tyler Glasnow (6-5) about a dozen rows into the right-field seats for a 5-3 lead in the bottom half. Fans in the sellout crowd of 48,023 had chanted "We Want Soto!" when Grisham came to the plate after infield hits by Alex Verdugo and Judge that bounced off fielders' gloves.

New York Mets first base Pete Alonso reacts after catching a throw from catcher Luis Torrens during a game-ending double play on a ball hit by Philadelphia Phillies' Nick Castellanos during a London Series baseball game at The London Stadium, in London, Sunday, June 9, 2024.

homered for the Orioles, who lead the majors with 102. Baltimore has taken the first three-games of the four-game set, and have won 13 of 17 overall.

Tampa Bay has dropped 12 of 16 at home.

Rodriguez (7-2) retired 15 in a row before walking Taylor Walls to begin the sixth. Yandy Díaz singled for the Rays' first hit with two outs before Brandon Lowe ended Rodriguez's day when he hit an RBI single to complete a 10-pitch at-bat.

CARDINALS 5, ROCKIES 1

ST. LOUIS (AP)

—Alec Burleson homered, and Masyne Winn drove in two runs and St. Louis beat Colorado for a split in the teams' four-game series.

Rookie catcher Pedro Pagés knocked in a run with a sacrifice fly, singled and scored twice for the Cardinals, who won for just the third time in 10 games.

The Rockies lost for the ninth time in 11 games.

Andre Pallante (2-2, 6.16

ERA) won for the second straight time in making his third consecutive start in Steven Matz's spot in the rotation since moving up from Triple-A Memphis. He threw 68 pitches in five innings, allowing three hits and no runs.

RANGERS 7, GIANTS 2

ARLINGTON, Texas (AP)

—Marcus Semien launched a two-run homer after getting hit in the helmet by a pitch, Adolis García stole home and Texas avoided being swept by manager Bruce Bochy's former team with a win over San Francisco.

The first pitch thrown by Giants starter Keaton Winn was a 94.5 mph fastball that knocked Semien's helmet off his head.

Semien then stole second base after getting checked on, and eventually scored the first

run. When he batted again in the second inning, he went deep on the next pitch he saw, an 86.4 mph slider, to put Texas up 5-0.

Nathan Eovaldi (3-2) went seven innings, his longest start for Texas since April 3. The right-hander, who missed most of May with a right groin strain, struck out five, walked one and gave up two runs on five hits.

CUBS 4, REDS 2

CINCINNATI (AP)—Ian Happ drove in three runs with a bases-loaded double in the first inning and Shota Imanaga had another strong start as Chicago ended Cincinnati's seven-game winning streak with a victory.

The two teams have been going in opposite directions. The Reds have won 12 of 16 while the Cubs have lost 12 of 16.

The Reds who won the first three games in the series, haven't swept the Cubs in a four-game series since 2018.

Imanaga (6-1) has allowed 12 runs (eight earned) over his past two starts. On Sunday, he allowed two earned runs in 6 2/3 with a walk and seven strikeouts.

Seiya Suzuki returned to the Cubs lineup and went 3 for 5 with a double and run scored. He missed Saturday's game after being hit in the back by a throw on Friday.

RED SOX 6, WHITE SOX 4

CHICAGO (AP)

—David Hamilton homered and doubled to help Boston rally past Chicago in 10 innings.

Jarren Duran reached on an error by reliever Michael Soroka (0-7) in the 10th, and Ceddanne Rafaela scored on Jamie Westbrook's sacrifice fly. Rob Refsnyder singled to bring in another run as Boston (33-33) returned to .500.

Margot led off the 10th with a triple to center field off a cutter from Ben Heller (0-1), scoring automatic runner Kyle

Kenley Jansen (2-1) struck out five in two innings for the win. Cam Booser fanned two in the bottom of the 10th for his first career save.

Paul DeJong hit a three-run homer and doubled for the White Sox, who had won two straight after a franchise-record 14-game losing streak.

NATIONALS 8, BRAVES 5

WASHINGTON (AP)

Keibert Ruiz homered as part of a seven-run fourth inning and Washington defeated Atlanta, spoiling the major league debut of Hurston Waldrep.

CJ Abrams drove in three runs for Washington, which won three of four from Atlanta and improved to 6-2 this season against the Braves.

Atlanta has dropped four of five and at 35-28 is nine games behind Philadelphia in the NL East. It is the first time the Braves have as little as seven games over .500 since being 12-5 on April 17.

Waldrep, the Braves' first-round pick in the 2023 draft who was called up from Triple-A Gwinnett earlier Sunday, was undeterred by a 35-minute weather delay at the start. The right-hander breezed through three innings without allowing a hit. He is the fourth member of last year's draft class to reach the majors and the second pitcher — along with Pittsburgh's Paul Skenes — to do so.

TWINS 11, PIRATES 5, 10 INNINGS

PITTSBURGH (AP)

—Manuel Margot hit an RBI triple to start a seven-run outburst in the 10th inning, and Minnesota ended a five-game losing streak with a win over Pittsburgh.

Margot led off the 10th with a triple to center field off a cutter from Ben Heller (0-1), scoring automatic runner Kyle

Alcaraz wins French Open for 3rd Grand Slam title at 21



PARIS (AP)— As Carlos Alcaraz began constructing his comeback in Sunday's French Open final, a 6-3, 2-6, 5-7, 6-1, 6-2 victory over Alexander Zverev for a first championship at Roland Garros and third Grand Slam title in all, there arrived the sort of magical shot the kid is making a regular part of his varied repertoire.

It was a running, then sliding, down-the-line, untoouchable forehand passing winner that Alcaraz celebrated by thrusting his right index finger overhead in a "No. 1" sign, then throwing an uppercut while screaming, "Vamos!"



No, he is not ranked No. 1 at the moment—the man he beat in the semifinals, Jannik Sinner, makes his debut at the top spot on Monday—but Alcaraz has been there before and, although a "2" will be beside his

name next week, there is little doubt that he is as good as it gets in men's tennis right now. And more accomplished than any man ever was at his age.

Alcaraz is a 21-year-old from Spain who grew up run-

ning home from school to watch on TV as countryman Rafael Nadal was accumulating title after title at Roland Garros—a record 14—and he eclipsed Nadal as the youngest man to collect major championships on three surfaces. Nadal was about 1½ years older when he did it.

"Different tournaments, different aura," Alcaraz said when asked to distinguish among his

trio of trophies, "but I'm going to say: same feeling. I mean, winning a Grand Slam is always special."

This one from the clay-court major joins hardware from triumphs on hard courts at the U.S. Open in 2022 and on grass at Wimbledon in 2023. He is 3-0 in Slam finals.

"It's an amazing career already. You're already a Hall of Famer. You already achieved so much—and you're only 21 years old," said Zverev, who also lost the 2020 U.S. Open final, that one after being two points from winning. "Incredible player. Not the last time you're going to win this."

Zverev, a 27-year-old from Germany, exited the French Open in the semifinals each of the past three years, including after tearing ankle ligaments during the second set against

Nadal in that round in 2022. Hours before Zverev's semifinal victory over Casper Ruud began on Friday, a Berlin district court announced that he reached an out-of-court settlement that ended a trial stemming from an ex-girlfriend's accusation of assault during a 2020 argument.

On Sunday against Alcaraz, Zverev faltered after surging in front by reeling off the last five games of the third set. Alcaraz's level dipped during that stretch and he seemed distracted by a complaint over the condition of the clay, telling chair umpire Renaud Lichtenstein it was "unbelievable."

But Alcaraz reset and ran away with it, taking 12 of the last 15 games while being treated by a trainer at changeovers for some pain and cramping in his left leg.

SABLAR

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champion Taylor Germance with an average of .653 from 32 out of 49 plate appearances.

In other batting categories, Joe Lizama leads the league in doubles with 10, and Jerome Delos Santos, Maratita, John Taitano, Kolani Castro, and Jerry Guerrero have nine each.

For the rare triple, Clint Quitugua and Suo Matsutaro have four each; Glenn Camacho has three; and eight play-

ers are tied with two each.

Power hitters Maratita and Manny Sablan lead the home run category with 12 each; Joey Dela Cruz has 11 dingers; and Cartfield and Ben Hocog have hit nine each out of the park.

Maratita has the most RBIs with 41; Cartfield is after with 38; Manny has 37; Dela Cruz collected 34; and Taitano has 30.

The most runs scored is 31 by John Terlaje; Cartfield and Paul Salalila have 29 each; and Mark Toves, Der-

ek Aguon, and Matsutaro have 28 each.

On the hill, the pitching leader is Hagu La'mun's Celis with the lowest earned run average at 6.567, a 12-3 record, in 15 games and 97 innings pitched, and 91 ER.

Second is Asahi's Dom Hideo with an ERA of 6.671, a 13-2 record, 15 games and 85 innings pitched, and 81 ER. In third is Sufa's Kallie Igitomar who sports a 7.552 ERA, a 7-3 record, pitched 10 games and 48.2 innings, and has 52 earned runs.

Leo Bobai has collected the most strikeouts so far with 43, while Jerry is right behind at 41. Celis K'd 29; Jojo Attao struckout 28; and Hideo and Ray Villagomez put out 27.

In the team standings, Asahi leads the league in wins with 15 and just two losses; second is Hagu La'mun at 13-4; Man Amigos has a 12-5 record; Suga is at 11-6; Tokahao is just above .500 with a 9-8 record; Peliliu and Wazzup are at 8-9 each; Redmen and Tuturamz are at 4-13; and Saipal has just one win and 16 losses.

BEST

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trials and tribulations that she overcame which strengthened her to climb up the ranks locally and onto the bigger international soccer stage.

In a packed Hibiscus Hall at the Crowne Plaza Resort Saipan last Friday night, the 2011 World Cup champion touched the hearts of many as she shared her inspirational journey and talked about her humble beginnings as a student-athlete in a small Japanese town—to which she said is not that different from Saipan.

Kumagai, with already 25 years of playing soccer under her belt, said she still has no plans of retiring.

She started playing in 1999 at the age of 9, and in 2008, she debuted for the Japanese national team at just 17 years old. Then, just three years later, she achieved the biggest milestone for herself and her country as she scored the winning goal in a shootout during the 2011 FIFA Women's World Cup to upset the U.S.A for the championship. She now looks forward to the 2024 Paris Olympics this summer.

The 33-year-old also gave high praise to her family, especially her mom who has supported her from her youth



Saki Kumagai's presentation, "The Way of My Life", which is about her journey to become an international soccer star last Friday night at the Hibiscus Hall of the Crowne Plaza Resort Saipan.

until now. "Without their support, I can't be where I am now. I can't thank my parents enough," she said.

She said family to her is important and she didn't realize it then, but she told the crowd of mostly young soccer players, "Be grateful for your parents because of their support and all the effort that they do—it's a really big thing."

Along with her family, she said the important things in her life are the Japanese saying "Yajirushi no muki," or "direction of the arrow;" being present in the moment; enjoying what you do; and being grateful.

With the direction of the arrow saying, she explained that for her, it's a privilege and it's fun playing as a professional.

But it's not always fun, so when things don't go right or things aren't going her way, she said the reason she's able to keep going is because she's able to analyze it, and points "the arrow" not to others, but to herself.

Plainly, it means, "it's not pointing the blame at others, but it's how you point to yourself and reflect on your mistakes, and see your imperfections and flaws."

After the presentation, she was met with a big round of applause, and after a Q&A portion, those in attendance got the chance to meet one on one with the soccer star for photos and conversation.

She then wrapped up her short visit to the CNMI with a soccer clinic for about 60

young soccer players alongside close friend and NMI national soccer team head coach Konomi Suzuki last Saturday at the NMI Soccer Training Center in Kobilerville.

Ahead of her clinic in an interview last Friday, Kumagai said, "I'm so excited and I want to enjoy it."

For Suzuki, she said that Kumagai's visit is beneficial to the community. "It means a lot. I really wanted her to come to Saipan to promote soccer to the children and help with their development," said Suzuki.

She said that she knows Kumagai really well and respects her, so she knows that if Kumagai came to Saipan, it would be a great opportunity for learning not just for the youth, but for a lot of people in the community as well.

Suzuki hoped that with Kumagai's visit, it helped encourage the community to challenge themselves and push themselves to try new things, just as Kumagai did and is continuing to do.

Kumagai visited the CNMI with manager Kouken Kuroki last Thursday for a vacation, but also found the time to engage with and inspire the community with her story, and this marked a historic moment for the soccer community as it hosted for the first time a current international star athlete.

Agape Christian School's incoming senior Jireh Wang poses with his MVP award during the 2023-2024 PSS/McDonald's All Schools Athletics Championships awards ceremony at the main McDonald's restaurant in Chalan Kiya last Thursday. Right is Education Commissioner Dr. Lawrence F. Camacho, Board of Education member Greg Borja, second right, second left is Northern Marianas Athletics' Elias Rangamar, and left is a McDonald's Saipan employee.

MVPS

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elementary school 9U/12U divisions.

For the high school 18U female MVP, Saipan International School incoming senior Andrei Kaithlyn Chavez won the award for the third time in a row. This season, she bagged gold in the 400m, 800m, 1,500m, and 3,000m races.

Not only did she go 4-for-4 in her events, she also accumulated 40 points of her team's 48 total points enroute to a bronze medal finish in the team awards category. In her three years of competing in the PSS/McDonald's All-Schools Cross Country next school year. "It's my last chance to train myself and get a good score again," said Chavez.

"I was surprised that I won because there were a lot of competitive girls this year. The competition was more intense, so it was a great way to push myself and strive to be a better athlete. Hopefully, I can finish my senior year on a good note. We'll see," said Chavez.

For the 18U male MVP, it's Agape Christian School's Jireh Wang. His medal haul was two golds for the 1,500m and 3,000m; one silver in the 800m; and gold in

the 4x400m relay.

He collected 40 total points to lead all competitors in the 18U division. Wang's events showcased impressive times and finishes, earning him the top performer award.

Wang said that he wasn't expecting to win the MVP, but thought it would be last year's winner again, Cody Shimizu.

The 18-year-old incoming ACS senior said the toughest event for him was the 1,500m. "God gave me the strength to keep going, so I give all glory to God of course," he said.

Now 18, he won't be able to join the PSS/McDonald's All Schools Athletics next season, but he will still join the PSS/NMA All Schools Cross Country next school year. "It's my last chance to train myself and get a good score again," said Wang.

As for his school repeating as champions yet again, he said, "We have a lot of runners, and fortunately, Marianas High School didn't have their complete team in the championship."

Results of the middle school 14U boys/girls division, and elementary school 12U/9U boys/girls division MVPs will be posted in the next issues of *Saipan Tribune*.



Celtics beat
Mavericks, take
2-0 lead as
series heads to
Dallas
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Alcaraz wins
French Open
for 3rd Grand
Slam title at 21

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SAIPAN TRIBUNE

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

The audience of "The Way of My Life" presentation, which includes the NMI Football Association Executive Committee, NMI National Team players, and football enthusiasts of all ages pose for a group photo with Saki Kumagai, front row eighth from right, Japan National Women's Football Team captain, last Friday night at the Hibiscus Hall of the Crowne Plaza Resort Saipan.



'Do your best where you are'

By LEIGH GASES
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REPORTER

If there's one message that Japan National Women's Football Team captain Saki Kumagai wants those who sat in her inspirational "The Way of My Life" presentation to remember, it's to "Do your best where you are."



In her presentation that was interpreted by NMI National Team pool player Akira Kadokura, Kumagai shared not only her successes, but also her

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CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Saki Kumagai, third left, poses with NMI Football Association Executive Committee member Catherine Attao-Toves, president Jerry Tan, vice president Vickie Izuka, treasurer Elna Curate, and Executive Committee member Alex Sablan for a group photo after Kumagai's "The Way of My Life" presentation at the Hibiscus Hall of the Crowne Plaza Resort Saipan on Friday.



LEIGH GASES

Japan National Women's Football Team captain, Saki Kumagai, left, with NMI National Team pool player Akira Kadokura during Kumagai's "The Way of My Life" presentation last Friday night at the Hibiscus Hall of the Crowne Plaza Resort Saipan.

Kaithlyn, Jireh are HS athletics MVPs



LEIGH GASES

Saipan International School's Andrei Kaithlyn Chavez, center, poses with her MVP award during the 2023-2024 PSS/McDonald's All Schools Athletics Championships awards ceremony at the main McDonald's restaurant in Chalan Kiya last Thursday. Right is Education Commissioner Dr. Lawrence F. Camacho, Board of Education member Greg Borja, second right, second left is Northern Marianas Athletics' Elias Rangamar, and left is a McDonald's Saipan employee.

By LEIGH GASES
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REPORTER

Northern Marianas Athletics, the Public School System, and McDonald's Saipan



and Guam awarded the top athletes of the 2023-2024 PSS/McDonald's All Schools Athletics Championships that concluded last month.

In an awards cer-

emony held at the main McDonald's restaurant in Chalan Kiya last Thursday, MVP trophies were given to the top performers of the high school 18U, middle school 14U, and

See MVPs on Page 15

Sablan, Celis lead BASA stats race



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

File photo shows Peliliu's Cartfield Sablan, center, with Budweiser Belau Amateur Softball Association board members during the 2023 Home Run Derby at the Dandan Softball Field.

By LEIGH GASES
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REPORTER

As of June 2, Cartfield Sablan is the batting leader, while Openg Celis is the top pitcher in the

2024 Budweiser Belau Amateur Softball Association master's division.



Peliliu's Sablan is always swinging for the fences as he kept up a high batting average of .685

from 37 hits of 54 at-bats. He knocked down Sufa's Audie Maraita to second place with a .677 average from 34 connections out of 51 at-bats. Third is Asahi's and the league's Home Run Derby

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